GOWER FAMILY

INFORMATION

DONATED BY JIMMY GOWER

GOWER

Family information of Gower family.
Elisha, Abel Jr. Mary and Tabitha Gower. sons and daughters of Capt. Abel Gower Sr. His will 1689. He married first ______. Secondly he married Jane Hatcher Branch. Her will 1699. These of Henrico Co.Va.

John Robertson married Mary Gower daughter of Abel Gower Sr. in Brunswick County, Virginia.
John Robertson was father of Jas. Robertson founder of Nashville.

JohnRandolph Robertson was a son of James Robertson and his wife Eliza Randolph.

Want to prove parents of Abel Gower Sr. who came to Davidson County Tennessee from North Carolina and to North Carolina from Virginia.

Joe Russell son of James, married Tenn . Gower daughter of William Gower brother of Elisha, Elisha and William were both ministers one Methodist and the other Baptist.

→ Jno. and Jane Gower settled in Mississippi near Corinth.

Mary Gower Robertson daughter of Abel Gower,was a sister of Abel Gower of Tenn.

Abel Gower thought to have been in House of Burgesses in Virginia, was Capt. Naval officer.
The Abel Gower who came to Davidson Co. Tenn. lived before going to North Carolina in Brunswick County, Virginia.

The Rev.Mr. Woodward of Nashville gives the following information on the Gower family. Gowers came from England. Joseph Russell married Charlotte Tennessee Gower in 1840. She was born Jan. 9, 1828 and he was born about 1810.
Abel Gower came to Virginia 1650 of Worchestershire family. He died in Henrico Co. Va. 1686.

WAS Abel Gower Sr. of Tennessee a son of Abel Gower of Henrico Co.Va. ?????

Abel Gower Sr. of Tenn. a citizen of Brunswick Co.Va. 1725. He moved to Wake County North Carolina 1754. He was a brother of Mary Gower who was wife of John Randolph Robertson and mother of James Robertson of Nashville.

Mary Gower was a daughter of a Capt. Abel Gower. Her early home was in Brunswick Co. Va. about 1754 moved to Wake Co.N.C. and then to Tenn. Abel Gower Jr. of Tenn. was ~~son~~ of Obedience Blakeley. She the first one buried in Gower Cemetery 1816.

Abel Gower Sr. wife was Mary and they had a daughter Nancy who married Andrew Lucas.

Abel Gower Jr. had issue
1.Russell , Killed 1780 by Indians near Nashville.
2. Abel, killed 1780 by Indiana near Nashville.
3. Elisha died 1795 married Prudence Miller.
4. Elizabeth married James Russell.
5. William born Oct. 26, 1776.

Abel Gower Jr. married in Wake Co.N.C. His wife a native of Wake Co.N.C.

P82 Early Times in the Cumberland Valley

"Col. Donelson, who had settled @ Clover Bottom immediately after he had arrived in Nashborough, vacated his home shortly after he made his settlement, because of a continuation of Indian activity in the 'hood and the flooding of his corn crop. He + his fam. removed to Mansker's Station, but later in the year when it was discovered that the corn had flourished in spite of the flood, he suggested that a joint Mansker's Station - Nashborough expedition be sent to harvest the crop and share the proceeds. Col. Donelson's son, John represented M.S. while Abel Gower + his party came from the Bluffs. A band of Indians was lurking in the nearby forest, and as Gower's boats started down the Stone's River, they were attacked. All were killed, save 3 men. Donelson + his group managed to escape + get back to Mansker's safely. Col. Donelson + his family then decided to move to the Ky. settlements in late 1780

"Early Times in the Cumberland Valley" By Jas. Crutchfield

Your father-in-law is probably a descendant of William Gower, son of Abel and Obedience Blakely Gower. Abel's 3 sons, James W., Mark Robertson + John H. Gower all migrated to Warren and Yazoo County Mississippi. James W. Gower was a doctor, Mark R. Gower never married. Another possibility is Abel Blakely Gower, Jr., grandson of the above William, who went to Yazoo County MS to live with his uncle, John H., after his father's death. I have more information on all of these people, if you are interested, I live in Ashland City, TN. Call me at 876-7779, if you wish.

Mary L. Solomon

ABEL GOWER SR. and MARY their decendants

Name	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
ABEL GOWER SR.		1780 *	
MARY (W)			

* Killed at Stone's River Massacre, Nashville

THEIR CHILDREN

Name	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
(M) RUSSELL	1747	?	CHARLOTTE (REEVES ?)
(M) CHARLES		1789 (KILLED)	
ENGLEY or (F) AINGLEY			11-13-1798 THOMAS RUSSELL
(F) OBEDIENCE		4-16-1816	NATHAN GATILIN or GATLIN
(F) ELIZABETH			JAMES RUSSELL
(M) MATTHEW	1762		
(M) ABEL JR.		1780 *	OBEDIENCE BLAKELY

* Killed with father ABEL SR.

Name	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
(M) DAVID *	1779?		

* Was killed enroute to Nashville. (1 boat was lost to Indians. I don't know if there were any survivers.)

Name	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
(F) NANCY *	1763		1780 ANDREW LUCAS 8-6-1806 BENJAMIN

*APPARENTLY MARRIED TWICE

NAME	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
WILSON L.			3-22-1812
CHARLOTTE BAIRD(W 1)			
LUCINDA PAGE (W 2)			11-30-1820

CHILDREN

* Charlotte and Wilson had at least 3 children 2 boys 1 girl names unknown. Two males ages 12-15; One female age 10-15.
* From 1830 census.

(M) JAMES WILSON HEAD	8-30-1821	7-29-1886	AMELIA (MILLY)
(M) WILLIAM E.C.	1824-5		ROSSANAH DURHAM 2-13-1849 DAVIS
(F)SHURSHEY E.	ca1828		
(M) EPHRAIM	ca1829 (cabinet maker)		
(M) HIRAM J.	1832 (farmer)		
(M) LARKIN	ca1826 (moved west) MISSOURI?		RHAPSEY GRIMES

Married in Robertson CO. 7-18-1841 *

* (If information is correct he would have been 15 years old when he got married, maybe that is why he went west.)

NAMES	BIRTH	DEATH	MARRIED
JAMES WILSON SOWER	8-30-1821	7-29-1886	AMELIA (MILLY) HEAD
AMELIA (MILLY) HEAD(W)	3-14-1817	2-23-1900	
Their children			
(M) HUGH WILSON	8-3-1843	2-5-1924	MARTHA W. MURPHY *
* Martha born 12-17-1847 died 10-15-1917			
(M) JOHN R.	1844		MARTHA WOODRUFF
(M) JAMES CAROL	5-11-1846		ANNA BELLE FREY
(M) GEORGE FRANKLIN	3-9-1849		VIRGINIA LOU GRAY
(M) HIRAM JACKSON * (JACK)*	1851		MARTHA WHITE
(F) LOUISA J. (LOU)	1849?		1870 WILLIAM ELLIOTT
(M) RICHARD	1854		DOLLIE WHITE
(M) TENNESSEE * (TEN) *	1856		NELLY NICHOLS
(F) ADELINE (ADDIE)	1858		GEORGE LAURENCE
(F) LUCINDA FRANCES	1859		JAMES BUCKNER NICHOLS

NAMES	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
GEORGE FRANKLIN GOWER	3-9-1848	5-21-1918	3-11-1871 VIRGINA LOU GRAY
VIRGINA LOU GRAY (W)	7-10-1854	5-31-1893	
Their Children			
(M) JESSE LEE	11-9-1871		WILLIE MURPHY *
	* Born 11-4-1896 Died 1954		
(M) GEORGE EDWARD (ED)*	5-14-1874 *	5-23-1952	CALVINA* ROSSON *(CALLIE)
(M) JAMES THOMAS* *(TOM)	3-22-1876	1939	MARY ABERNATHY
(M) JOHN MILES	2-19-1878		SUSIE HEAD
(F) ALICE MAE	1-16-1880	4-7-1880	
(M) WILLIAM LOGAN* *(WILL)	7-24-1881	7-24-1958	EFALE deFLORENCE PACE (1908)?
(M) HUEY HARDIN	2-29-1884	5-29-1885	
(M) JOSEPH FRANKLIN (JOE)	6-21-1888	1961	ELSIE DANE MURPHEY* *died 2-3-1978
(M) CLARENCE BURGESS	9-13-1891	6-3-1979	BETTY WHITEHEAD 5-7-1916
INFANT SON	5-18-1883	5-22-1883	

As information becomes available will complete to present.

NAME	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
RUSSELL GOWER			
CHARLOTTE (REEVES ?)			

THEIR CHILDREN

NAME	BORN	DIED	MARRIED
(M) ALEXANDER KARL			9-23-1803 EDDY EVANS (an INDIAN)
(M) JOSEPH			
(F) CHARLOTTE			
(M) ABEL III			
(F) NANCY ELIZABETH			PERRY JAMES 1-30-1807
(M) SAMUEL (SAMUEL and SIDNEY WERE TWINS)			CELIA KOEN
(F) SIDNEY			JOHN HOOPER
(M) ELISHA P.			MARY ANN DOZIER 3-30-1814
(M) WILLIAM			MARY CRUTCHFIELD
(M) WILSON L.	11-19-1793		married twice CHARLOTTE BAIRD 3-22-1812 LUCINDA PAGE 11-30-1820
(M) JAMES R. (RAGAN)	1795-6 *		

* Lived in Maine (Was pow, held by British, War of 1812 escaped to Maine.)

(M) EZIAS

Gower

GOWER

Knox Co. Tenn. wills, book. 1. page 143. Matthew Gower appointed administrator of Thomas Gower deceased.
Page 144. Inventory of Thomas Gower deceased 1815.

Page 160. Regarding Thomas Gower Sale. Statement from Blount Co. Tenn. by Wm. Burris and Isaac Wilburn regarding Mary Cartwright having money belonging to estate 1815.

Lemuel Gower, Grocer, Dies

Lemuel Herschel Gower Sr., 59, Nashville grocer and well-known bird dog breeder, died at 9:45 p.m. last night at his home, 1084 Murfreesboro road, following a long illness.

The body is at Cosmopolitan funeral home, where services will be conducted at 3 p.m. tomorrow by the Rev. John I. Dickson. Burial will be in Woodlawn Memorial park.

Mr. Gower was born in Nashville Dec. 31, 1888, and had lived here all his life. He was son of the late Ephriam E. and Jennie Groll Gower and was a descendant of Abel Gower, who brought his family to Davidson county in 1790.

He was educated in the public schools and as a young man became assistant superintendent of Tennessee Industrial school, a position which he held until 1919.

From that time until his death, he operated his own grocery, Gower's store, on Murfreesboro road.

Mr. Gower was recognized as a breeder of bird dogs, both field trial and bench show classes. Many of his dogs placed prominently in national field trials. He was past president of the Middle Tennessee Field Trial association.

In his younger days he was a local sandlot baseball star, and gained quite a reputation as a "spitball" pitcher. On one occasion, while pitching for the TIS team, he struck out 19 of 21 batters that faced him.

He was married in 1915 to the former Miss Marie Hudson of Lebanon, Tenn., who survives. He was a member of Arlington Methodist church.

Other survivors are a daughter, Miss Jennie Lou Gower, and two sons, Herschel Gower Jr. and Edwin Hudson Gower, all of Nashville.

Active pallbearers will be Hubert Wyatt, C. C. Bell, Dave Caldwell, Douglas Seat, Will B. Brown, and Keele Bragg. Honorary pallbearers will be Marion Capps, Harry Eubanks, E. K. Powers, Carl Thoni, Miller Watkins, Arthur Spann, Henry Wade, Walter N. Morgan, Dorsey Horner, Charles Franklin, John E. Wells, Bascom Jones, W. M. Vick, John Trout, William C. Weaver Jr., Johnny Gouch, Charles S. Ragland, Lawrence Leuthold, C. E. Bates, Dr. Barney Brooks and members of the men's Bible class at Arlington Methodist church.

GOWER—Saturday morning, August 9, 1930, at 6 o'clock, at her home, 1606 Fatherland Street, Mrs. Lilla Lee Gower, widow of the late John W. Gower, age 59 years. Survived by one son, Harry V. L. Gower; two daughters, Mrs. E. F. Kenton and Mrs. P. T. Diehl; two grandchildren, Beverly Lane Diehl and Harry Wilson Kenton, all of this city; brothers, H. G. Lassiter of this city and J. S. Lassiter of Houston, Texas. Remains are at the home of her daughter, Mrs. P. T. Diehl, 10 Waters Avenue, where funeral services will be conducted, Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, by Dr. T. C. Ragsdale. Interment Spring Hill cemetery. The following are pallbearers: L. D. Bumbalough, J. B. Holt, E. L. Edwards, T. D. King, L. C. Diehl and L. E. Sensing. Houston, Texas, papers please copy. Charles K. Austin Company, 1621 Broadway in charge.

tendency in cod liver oil.

W. R. GOWER JOINS HARLEY-HOLT CO.

W. R. Gower, for the past six years associated with a Nashville department store as head of the floor covering department, has accepted a similar position with the Harley-Holt Furniture Company. Mr. Gower has had fourteen years experience in Nashville in this line, and his judgment and taste in the matter of suitable floor coverings is well recognized.



W. R. GOWER,
Who will have charge of the floor covering department of Harley-Holt Furniture Company.

MRS. LILLA L. GOWER DIES AT HOME HERE

Funeral To Be Held on Sunday.

Mrs. Lila Lassiter Gower, widow of John W. Gower, former well-known Nashville printer, died at 6 o'clock Saturday morning at her home, 1606 Fatherland street. She had been in failing health for several years.

Funeral services, conducted by the Rev. T. C. Ragsdale, will be held at 10 o'clock Monday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Phares T. Diehl, 10 Waters avenue. Burial will be in Spring Hill cemetery.

Mrs. Gower, a lifelong resident of Nashville, was for many years a member of the East End Methodist church. Besides the daughter, she is survived by another daughter, Mrs. E. F. Kenton; two grandchildren, Harry W. Kenton and Beverly Diehl; two brothers, Henry E. Lassiter [illegible] and J. S. Lassiter

Claude L. Gower, Sr.

Funeral services for Claude L. Gower, Sr., 65, who died unexpectedly this morning at his home, 205 Thirty-eighth Avenue, North, will be held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Park Avenue Church of Christ. Elder Carl York Smith will officiate, and burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Mr. Gower, a painter for R. E. Dunn, Jr., contractor, had been in poor health for the past several months but had continued working.

He was a native of Nashville and was a member of the Park Avenue Church of Christ.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Lizzie Gower; a son, Claude Gower, Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. W. H. Hollandsworth and Miss Viola Gower, all of Nashville; a half-sister, Mrs. Haskel Gowan of Shelbyville, Tenn.; three half-brothers, Herbert and John Gower of St. Louis, Mo., and H. J. Gower of Nashville, and 2 grandchildren.

OWEN H. GOWER CALLED BY DEATH

Funeral services for Owen H. Gower, 49, who died at 6:30 a. m. Monday at the home of his brother-in-law, J. W. Matthews, 1024 Fairwin Avenue, will be conducted from the residence at 2 p. m. Tuesday by Elder Hall L. Calhoun.

Mr. Gower had been in poor health for a number of years and just last Monday suffered a stroke of paralysis which was the immediate cause of his death.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dollie Matthews Gower; one daughter, Miss Marjorie Gower; a sister, Miss Johnie Gower, and two brothers, Edward Gower of this city and Thomas C. Gower of Chicago.

Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Services at the grave will be in charge of Washington Council No. 5, Jr. O. U. A. M. Dr. R. L. Dozier, J. L. Lewis, Baxter Cato, C. E. Rogers, Edward Breedlove and Harvey Vantrease will serve as honorary pallbearers. The active pallbearers will be: George S. Davis, Edward Zink, J. E. Moonneyham, W. L. Oliver, Charles Bauer and Edward Gone.

Sgt. John H. Gower Back From Overseas

Clarksville, Sept. 21—(Special)—Sgt. John Howard Gower, son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Gower of Lockert community, is at home on his first furlough since he volunteered in the service more than four years ago. He is a member of the U. S. Rangers and has been awarded the Purple Heart.

Arriving unexpectedly Monday night, Sergeant Gower was a member of a group who brought a number of war prisoners back to the States. He has been wounded twice.

Gower

Dear Mrs. Whitley,

Here are the stories turned in this year for the publication,

"Children And Youth During the American Revolution" - our Bicentennial project, you will rec

About the "points" which you will give to the chapters submitting short stories for this project, here is how the record is:

for year 1974-75 - stories submitted by chapters (and you reviewed all these stories then)

Samuel Doak Chapter - 2 good stories by Sara Beets

Samuel Hawkins Chapter - 1 good story submitted by Mrs. Edwin Perkins

Rock House Chapter - 1 story submitted by Mrs. Wayman Hill

French Lick Chapter - 1 story submitted by Sara Bradford Saunders

for year 1975-76 - THIS YEAR (copies of these stories attached for your review and then please return to me)

Rock House Chapter - Mrs. Wayman Hill sent in 1 story (which lists the 78 Revolutionary W soldiers in White County, as wel

General Francis Nash - Mrs. Whitley's 1 on Nancy Gower

Robert Cartwright Chapter - 1 story by Mrs. F. H. Wade

Cumberland Chapter - 1 story by Dorriss Douglass

Travellers Rest Chapter - 2 stories (one is excerpts from original manuscript)

Jeanette Rudy and I will be proceeding right along hoping to have this publication ready by State Conference time.

HAPPY NEW YEAR and much love,

Mary Enoch

December 1975

Gower

NANCY GOWER, Heroine of the Voyage

By Edythe ~~Boyd~~ Rucker Whitley
General Francis Nash Chapter, NSDAR

With Colonel John Donaldson's party on their trip down the Cumberland River was Nancy Gower. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abel Gower and was about seventeen years old at that time. This party of pioneers were coming in a flotilla of flatboats from the Watauga settlement in upper East Tennessee to the Bluffs on the Cumberland River, later called Fort Nashborough and finally Nashville.

The journey by water route began in December 1779 on the Holston River then onto the Ohio River. It was a cold winter. The boats were trapped in ice along the way for two months. Many of the travelers suffered frostbitten feet and illness, even small pox. They were often hungry. Other misfortunes came with boats capsizing ~~along with~~ the repeated Indian attacks.

It was near Chattanooga on the Tennessee River when the Indians made one attack. Nancy courageously took the helm of her father's boat. She was shot through the thigh but did not cry out or give any sign of suffering until the boats were safely through the passage. It was then her mother discovered the blood on Nancy's clothing. Certainly after that, Nancy was known as "The Heroine of the Voyage".

Fortunately, Nancy recovered from the wound and ~~in later years~~ married Andrew Lucas (born October 10, 1752). They became the parents of four daughters. According to his will found in the Davidson County Wills of 1830, these daughters were Lairner, Polly, Susan and Lina. How proud these girls must have been of their courageous mother.

References:
DAR Magazine Vol. 68. 1934 p.154.
Will Book 8 p.371 Dav.Co.Tenn.

NANCY GOWER

With Colonel John Donelson's party on their trip down the Cumberland River and across East Tennessee, was Nancy Gower, daughter of Abel Gower, Sr. Nancy was wounded on the Tennessee River, when in the Indian attack on the boat near Chattanooga she took the helm of her father's boat. She was shot through the thigh but did not cry out or give any sign by suffering until the boats were safely through the passage where they had been attacked. Her mother then discrovered the blood on her clothing.

Luck was with Nancy Gower, for she recovered and in later years married Andrew Lucas.

Bicentennial Committee,
Publicity Project
General Francis Nash Chapter.
Edythe R. Whitley (Mrs C.B.)
Chapter Chairman, Bicentennial.

December 1974.

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References:
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Will Book 8 p.371 Dav.Co.Tenn.

September 30, 1975

Dear Mrs. Whitley,

Could you include in this little story Nancy Cower's age, or approximate age, and footnote with bibleography or something, so we can include this in our publication of Children and Youth During the American Revolution! I do hope you will follow up and let us have the story within the near future, as it would be just perfect for our publication.

Thank you and much love,

Mary Enoch

Where might I order some certificates to give out at State Conference recognizing several who have really researched and done some excellent writing in this project?

NANCY GOWER

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Luck was with Nancy Gower for she recovered and in later years married Andrew Lucas. Andrew Lucas was born October 10 1752. Nancy Gower was known as " The Heroine of the Voyage".

The will of Andrew Lucas is recorded in Davidson County Wills 1830 in which he names his wife Nancy and four daughters Lairner, Polly, Susan and Lina.

Ref:
DAR Mag. Vol. 68. 1934 p.154.
Will Book 8 p.371 Dav.Co.Tenn.
and other references.

Bicentennial Committee
Publicity Project. for Children of the American Revolution
General Francis Nash Chapter. DAR.

Edythe Whitley
Chapter Chairman Amer. Rev.Bicentennial.

Dec. 1974.

S.R. #21763 Established by Howard Petty Perry.
Tenn SR #1144
July 24-1969

John Henry Perry
b. [illegible] Cheatham Co. Tenn.
d. 1903
m. Cheatham Co. Tenn 1-14-1853

b
d

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John Hiram Perry
b June 29-1865
d Apl 24-1946
m Dec 4-1887
Hannah Ukola
b Sept 18-1870
d. Mar 12-1958

Elisha Gower
b Dav. Co. Tenn. 1789
d Dav. Co. Tenn. 1853
m
Dav. Co. Tenn. 1-12-1818
m Jemima Patton May 5-1810

Elijah Gower
b Dav. Co. [illegible] 1774
d Oct 1795 Cumb. [illegible]
m 12-22-1790
Davidson [illegible]

Abel Gower Jr — over
b Va. 1760
d 1780 Killed by Indians Cumb. R.
m Dav. Co. -
Obedience Blakeley
b
d Dav. Co. - apr 16-1816

b
d Prudence Cox (Kerr)

Sarah Catherine Gower
b 1835
d July 1915

2 wives.
b
d before 1890
Sally Fowler

KEY
b= Born
d.=Died
m= married

Ref. to lineage — [illegible] — Ramsey's "Annals of Tenn."

Haywood's Hist. of Tenn.

Bishop Hoss "Life of James Robertson"

McFerrin's Hist. of Methodism in Tenn.

James E. Woodward's "The Gowers"

Cheatham Co. Tenn. Marriages

Family documents + history

Davidson Co. Tenn. Marriages p 192

" " " " p 32

Abel Gower Sr

b Va. circa 1730.

d. 1780 Clover Bottom, Cumb. R. Massacre.

Mary Elizabeth

Gower

Fairfield,Maine
June 27 1961

Mrs Edythe Whitley
2710 Belmont Blvd.
Nashville,4,Tenn.

My Dear Mrs Whitley:

Several years ago,in fact in 1954,I wrote you relative to tracing one of my (presumably) relatives.At that time I was unable to do it because of the financial situation.I feel that perhaps now,if it is'nt too expensive,I might be able to go ahead w th it.

I am enclosing the letter that you wrote me at the and will go on from there.

To begin with,my great grandfather,whose name,according to an application for a widow's pension,made out by his widow,Mrs Almira Gower,and of which I have a photostat copy from the Nat'l Archives,was James Ragens Gower.However,he always called himself and signed his name as James R Gower. According to his story,again substantiated by a photostat copy of an application for a Veteran's pension,(and which, incidentally,was denied by the War Dept for the reason that they could find no proff of service)he enlisted in the Tennesee Volunteers,in the 24th Inf.Regt. near Knox ville,Tenn.on the 13th of August,1813,saw 4 or 5 months service,was captured by the British at Fort Niagara,N.Y. on the 19th of Dec. 1813,escaped later in the winter and came to Maine,settling near the town of Calais,Maine and lived in that vicinity 'till his death,sometime in the early '80s.

That is all the information that I have on where he actually came from.However,one of my numerous cousins,J.H. Lobely,who now lives in Chicago,and at nne time was very interested in the family history,attempted to determine who,in Tenn. he actually descended from.Accord ng to Lobely,James R Gower's father was Russell Gower,son of Abel Gower Jr,who,with his father,Abel Sr and others,was killed at the "Clover Bottom Massacre",but he has no definite proof of that.Lobely says that,according to Rev J.E.Woodward,Russell Gower,son of Abel Jr,was christened James Russell Gower,but that he never used his first name. In any event,Russell Gower had brothers named Abel,Elisha and William as well as several sisters,names of them being unknown.Now here is the peculiar part of the whole thing.From one of my great grandfather's grandsons,another James,who can remember him,comes the story that he remembers his grandfather telling about his brothers Elisha and Abe,so it would seem that those were the only names that the family ever used.

I am unable to determine if my great grandfather ever had any sisters,so there is nothing to go on from that angle.

Is there any way that I can obtain definite proof of who my great,great grandfather was?If I could positively pinpoint who he was I'd be glad to pay for it,but if it is'nt possible to do that,I'd hate to spend money for something that can only be guessed at.

If you feel that you can help me,please advise as to the cost before you start.And thank you for the trouble it may cause you.

W. R. Gower

Very truly yours
Walter Raymond Gower

Over

EDYTHE WHITLEY
1604 South Observatory Drive
Nashville, 12, Tenn.

July 1,1961

Mr. W. R. Gower
Fairfield. Maine

Dear Mr. Gower -

It was nice to hear from you again.

It would be impossible for me to take you work until about the first of October as I have more on hand than I can possibly finish until about that time. I will however be glad to book your work for sometime in October if you will let me know at once that you wish the time set aside for you.

I am familiar with Rev. Woodard's work on the Gower family, some of it was very good, and some not so good. Like all genealogical material the person doing the work usually has one particular branch in which they are more interested.

If you wish me to do some work for you on the Gower family, I would suggest that in placing your order that you include a copy of the pension record referred to so that I may study it and possible see some good leads in it which you would not see, since I am familiar with t is section. There are several Russell Gowers, in fact Russell is without a doubt a Gower family given name which comes through several branches.

Meanwhile I might suggest that you get a double check on your branch of the family by checking the census of 1850, 60-70 and possibly 1840 for town of Calais Maine or that vicinity or county and see that James R. Gower gives about himself, that is his place of birth, age and etc. then compare it with the pension application you have. This once done it would help greatly in the work of connecting Maine with Tennessee.

My fee for research is $25.00 per day.plus any expense which may come about, such as photo copies of vital material (other material abstracted and typed or copied as value may seem worth while). Not many photo copies are needed,but a Marriage record, a Will, or a birth record sometimes when questionable are good to have photos made.

Of course you can order one or two days work and then see how it works out before investing more if you wish.

If you wish time reserved for you, please advise immediately.

Sincerely,

The line of descent, as far as I know.
I, Walter Raymond Gower, son of Walter
Stephen Gower, son of Joel Augustus
Gower, son of James (Rogers) Gower, son
of, he was born in Tenn (no place
mentioned) in 1794 or 95.

Gower

1834 Arnold Highway
Fairfield, Maine
Aug 4 1954

County Clerk of
Davidson County
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Will you please advise if records of the Census of 1790 show a Gower family, one Abel Gower Jr and wife(name unknown) with children Russell, Abel, Elisha, Elizabeth and William; who presumably came there from Wake County, N.C. somewhere around 1780? Also, if possible, the marriage of the above named William.

And if Census reports are available, from the report of 1800, would the same William Gower and wife (name also unknown) be shown with a son James Thomas, born sometime in the year 1796.

I am anxious to trace the James Thomas Gower to either New Brunswick, Canada or the state of Maine, where he settled in the vicinity of St Stephen, N.B., Canada or Calais, Maine, towns on either side of the International Boundry along the St Croix river. Census reports in the state capitol at Augusta, Maine for the year 1860 show James Thomas Gower, at that time 64 years of age, as having been born in Tenn, but no town given, in the year 1796. He was living at that time in the city of Calais, Maine.

I would be most grateful for the above information, if such is available and would be very glad to pay any charge that there may be.

I wrote a letter yesterday, addressed to the city or county clerk at Nashville that may possibly be fowarded on to your office. I just found out the county name today.

May I hear from you, please, at your convenience.

Respectfully yours

W. Raymond Gower

W. Raymond Gower

GOWER

The name Gower is English and was represented in Virginia by several very early immigrants, among whom were

Edward Gower 1655 transported by Mr. John Mottrow, to Northumberland County, Virginia.

John Gower 1653 transported by John Edwards to Lancaster County, Virginia.

Nich Gower 1638 transported by Stephen Charlton to Accomack County, Virginia.

Richard Gower 1637 transported by Percival Champion to New Norfolk County, Virginia. (Early Virginia Immigrants by Greer 1623-1666 p. 132).

One of the first pioneer families on the Cumberland at Nashville was the Gower family.

As early as 1653 the Gower family was established in Virginia and was represented by Francis Gower whose wife's maiden name was Mary. His son Francis Gower married Anne Clarke, daughter of Henry and Joan Clark, and resided in Old Rappahannock County, Virginia. Their son John Gower married Esther, daughter of Richard Greene and located in Richmond County, Virginia. Their daughter Anne Gower married William Thrift of Richmond County, and their daughter Esther Thrift married John Rochester of Westmoreland County, Virginia. They had a daughter Esther Rochester who married Reuben Pyles in Granville County, North Carolina and moved to South Carolina.

Nancy Pyles born 1780 was their daughter and married George Barmore. This family continued migration by moving to Alabama and later to Arkansas. Their son William Barmore, of Pickens County, Alabama , married Elizabeth Tennessee Morris and were parents of Mary Parthenia Barmore born 1838 who married Jonathan Crosx Bell. (Foote Note: Lineage of Louis Carr Henry, of Washington , D.C.).

From the Virginia State Archives at Richmond, Henrico County, Virginia, deeds 1697-1704 page 419, I find the following: August the first 1704. Present to ye court by Martha Gower the Relict and administrator of Rich'd Gower, deceased and proved by her oath to be a true and perfect inventory of her deceased husbands estate to the best of her knowledge ye same being ordered upon ye order of court appointing appraisers & c. ---- Test Ba; Cocks Cl. Cur) according
and whom it is Recd.) to
May the 31-1704 etc.etc.) order of
Henrico Co. Court Aug. 1- 1704.) court
Signed Martha Gower".

There is in Richmond County, Virginia in will book 5 p. 20 the will of John Gower dated Dec. 8, 1725 naming wife Susannah, son Francis and daughter Ann, daughter Winnifred and Elizabeth another daughter. This will was

proved October 5, 1726.

The will of Stanley Gower, Richmond, County, Virginia, Book 5. page 274, dated 27 Aoctober 1734-5 calls him of North Farnham Parish and names a son John and a daughter Catherine. A daughter Francis or Hannah (married I believe Munroe Sissons (Sessions; A son Stanley then under twenty-one years of age and a daughter Ann Singleton, are mentioned therein. This will was proved April 5, 1735.

The Farnham Parish register in Richmond County, Virginia, which I examined at Warsaw, gives several items on the Gower family as follows: "Born Kathrine daughter of Stanley and Sarah Gower, Sep. 24, 1720." " John Gower departed this life Jan. 7, 1726". "Susannah Gower departed this life Dec. 11, 1726". "Winnifred Gower departed this life May 20, 1727". " Francis Gower departed this life April 16, 1729."

"Born Francis son of Francis and Rachel Gower Dec. 15, 1726". "Jane a negro girl belonging to Stanley Gower born Feby 11, 1726"." Hannah a negro girl belongin to Stanley Gower died Feby 7, 1729". Rose a negro gril belonging to Stanley Gower born Dec. 23; 1730". " Rose a negro woman belonging to Stanley Gower died July 29, 1731".

In Brunswick County, Virginia book 2 page 119, William Gower wife Anne to Henry Wilkins a lease dated Nov. 4, 1741. William Gower and wife Anne give their place of residence as Brunswick County while Henry Wilkins states he was of Prince George County .The conveyance was 200 acres of land in St. Andrews Parish in Brunswick County on Reedy Branch adjoining John Jackson's corner. The lease was signed by both William and Ann Gower and was witnessed by George G. Mabrey and James Banks.

There is a deed on record in Brunswick County book 5 page 527 where William Gower of Brunswick County and of St. Andrew Parish conveys to John Maclin of the same county, a tract of land.Anne Gower signs the deed with her husband. Said deed dated Feb. 26, 1754 .

March 23, 1761 Abel Gower purchased from Russell Blackly 80 acres in Brunswick County on Meherrin Branch for which he paid six pounds currant Virginia money, (D.B. 6. p. 640).

The will ow William Gower dated 29 Aug. 1775 proved April 27, 1778 Brunswick County (B. 5. p. 12) calls for wife Anne only. It does not mention children.

Abel Gower and wife deeded Richard Rains, October 25, 1762 a tract of 80 acres adjoining Isaac Adams line on Meherrin Branch in Brunswick County. Both parties of Brunswick County at the time. Obedience Gower relinquished her right. This deed shows as witness Henry Jackson, Wood Tucker and Russell Blackley (D.B. 7. p. 187).

The Gower family as I have already said came to Virginia from England.

Tradition says, Abel Gower came to Virginia 1650 and was of the Worchestershire family of Gowers and that he died in Henrico County, Virginia 1686.

Abel Gower Senior, of Brunswick County, Virginia was born 1725 moved to Wake County, North Carolina in 1754 and was a brother of Mary Gower who was wife of John Randolph Robertson and mother of General James Robertson of Nashville, Tennessee, frequently called "Father of Nashville".

Tradition further states, Mary Gower was a daughter of Capt. Abel Gower and moved from Brunswick County, Virginia about 1754 to Wake County North Carolina and later to Nashville Tennessee.

Abel Gower of Tennessee married Obedience Blackley.

Abel Gower Senior, wife was Mary and they had a daughter Nancy who married Andrew Lucas another early settler in Tennessee.

Abel Gower had issue:

1.Russell killed 1780 by Indians in Cumberland Settlement.

2.Abel killed 1780 by Indians in Cumberland settlement.

3.Elisha died 1795 married Prudence Miller (Coon, She m(2) a Miller)

4.Elizabeth married Rev. James Russell (See Russell family lineage this history).

5.William born October 26, 1776.

Abel Gower Junior married in Wake County, North Carolina. His wife was a native of Wake County.

Joe Russell son of James Russell married Tennessee Gower daughter of William Gower brother of Elisha. Elisha and William Gower both ministers one was a Methodist and the other a Baptist.

→ John and James Gower located near Corinth, Mississippi.

The Honorable Thomas Claghorn Gower born at Abbott, Piscataguis County, Me. April 23, 1822 lived there until he was nineteen years of age and moved to Greenville, South Carolina.

July 25, 1844 he married Jane Jones Williams of Williamston, Anderson County, South Carolina, a daughter of West Allen Williams and grand-daughter of Samuel Williams of Greenville County, fourteen miles southwest of Greenville village. Had a daughter married Captain O.P. Mills of Greenville, S.C. He married secondly Feb. 26, 1867 Bettie S. Rowland nee Brooks daughter of John Wesley and Melissa

Duncan Brooks. She died Nov. 27, 1872.

Mr. Gower married thirdly October 28, 1873 Sallie A. Martin daughter of Jno. Campbell Martin and Mary A. Starke of Abbeville South Carolina.

Mr. Gower by first wife had issue. Mr. Gower's first wife died Aug. 4, 186Had a son Arthur G. Gower who had:

1.Susan Cordelia born Dec. 8, 1845.
2.William H. born Apr. 22, 1848 died Feb. 5, 1850.
3.Mary E. born Nov. 11, 1852.
4.Thomas E. born Ap. 9, 1859 died Dec. 3, 1865.
5.Arthur G. born Oct. 14, 1861.
6.Charles E. born Nov. 19, 1863.
7.Thomas E. born July 3, 1868 died July 3, 1869.
8.Lola Elise born May 22, 1870
9.Brooks born Nov. 16, 1872 died Nov. 16, 1872.
10.Annie Mai born Aug. 31, 1874 died Sept. 1, 1874
11.Sadie Mai. born Nov. 26, 1875 died Ap. 4, 1876.
12.Marie C. born Dec. 10-1877.
13.Nell born 1878 died childhood.
14.Thomas C. born Mar. 18, 1880.

In Bedford County Virginia, Stanely Gower's will (B.A. p. 431) names son Stanley, son John Craley Gower. Wife Ann. dated 24 May 1782.

In Davidson County Tennessee, Abel Gower allowed a claim Feb. 24, 1773. (N. C. St. and Co. Rec. 9 and 22, p. 879).

Russell Gower allowed land of 600 acres in Davidson County free of expense by North Carolina. Abel Gower Senior and Abel Gower Junior were allowed the same. (Vol. 24. N. C. St. and Col. Rec. p. 629-630).

Henrico County, Virginia 1679 April 25, Abel Gower in the House of Burgesses.

There were Gowers in Johnston and Mecklenburg County North Carolina in 1790.

In Davidson County Tennessee marriages Book 1. p. 47 Thomas Russell married Engley Gower Nov. 13, 1789.

In Davidson County, Tennessee, Old District No. 25. Little Marrowbone Creek where Cheatham County line crosses the same follow to creek near Joe Russell then to Cumberland River then up river to Hyde's Woodyard at neck of White's Bend between Sulphur and Eaton's Creek on three forks of Marrowbone Creek lived Elisha, William E. ~~James Sr.~~, Gower and James Sr., William and Thomas Russell.

Gower's Chapel in Old 12th District of Davidson County on South bank of Cumberland River to Charlotte Pike to

Richland Creek up to Hardin and Richland turnpike to Charlotte pike to Cheatham County line to Joseph Russell to Pond Creek to Cumberland River. Hillsboro was made the voting precinct near the center, south of Bell's Bend is Gower's Chapel .

One Bel Gower received land grant in Gwinnett County Georgis for Revolutionary Aervices.

A.C. Gower married Rebecca Wilson June 11, 1851 and John D. Gower married L.S. Wilson Oct. 17, 1850. Albert Patton married Tabitha Gower Jan. 22, 1848. All in Davidson County, Tennessee.

In the old City Cemetery in Nashville there is the tombstone of Martha J. Gower born April 21, 1837 died March 5, 1861 wife of Oliver Gower and daughter of Robert Work.

The inventory of Elijah Gower deceased Oct. 1795 by Prudence Gower administrator mentions among other things a "large bible" Oct. 1795. (W.B. 2. p. 34 Dav.Co.Tenn).

William Gower was on the jury in Davidson County Tennessee April 19, 1813.

Overseers were ordered for the road leading from Moore's Gin branch to Gower's line be added to part of said road of which Peter Wright is overseer and that said Wright oversee same, July 20, 1813 (O.B. p. 1088, Book 1813).

Alexander Gower was on the jury July 22, 1813 (p.1093 Dav. Co. Tenn. O.B. 1813).

Gower's Chapel graveyard has tombstones. Rev. William Gower born Nov. 6, 1776 died Oct. 11, 1855. Charlotte Gower born July 1, 1782 died April 16, 1860. Nancy L. Gower born March 19, 1805 died Oct. 7, 1885. Lorenzo D. Gower born Sept. 27, 1808 died July 11, 1802(probably is 1892 or 1902 hard to read).

Sarah Peirce daughter of Col. Wm. Peirce born in York County Virginia 1632 will 1702 Westmoreland County, Virginia married Stanley Gower of Richmond County, Virginia. (Col. Fam. of Va. by McKenzie Vol.7. p. 187).

A deed Dec. 1695 from Jane Gower for a tract of land given her by her father-in-law, Christopher Branch, of Kingsland conveyes to John Cocke and Obedience his wife, who was Obedience Branch daughrer of John Branch, deceased, who was the son of Jane Gower". (Water's Genealogical Gleamings).

The descendants of Capt. Abel Gower father of Mary Gower, claim that he was of the Yorkshire Gowers now called Leveson-Gower, of which are the present Earl of Granville and the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Gower married the

heiress of Lord Granville .

The Cockrill family history gives some interesting notes on the Gower family in Nashville.

The Rev. Jas. Woodward, a descendant has collected a very complete history of the Gower family of Middle Tennessee, this is unpublished, except in pamphlet form. He is a deecendant of William Gower, son of Abel Gower, Jr. and Obedience Blakley Gower.

Sir. Robert Gower. M.P.who lives in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England has a very excellent collection of Gower history in England. He is a member of the Society of Antiquaries and genealogical sociaties in England. He traces the Gower family in two charts to William the Conqueror on the feminine side and the other going as far back as 1500. Sir Robert Gower states that the line in America is undoubtedly a continuation of the Worchestershire line in England because of the given name Abel which so often appears in the American branches of the family.

Rev. Woodward's notes continue.

1776 Signers of "Articles of Association" by Watauga Association"
Committee of 13 shows
James Robertson
Charles Robertson
Geo.Russell
Robert Lucas
Geo.Russell 1778 Washington Co.Tenn.

Ramsey's Annals of Tenn, page 107. Watauga Settlement.
page 120. George Russell granted land 1775 Watauga Settlement.
page 138. Signs
page 181 Washington Co. Feb. 23, Geo.Russell
page 189. In 1779 Legislature of North Carolina established Jonesboro as county seat of Washington County, Jno. Wood, Jesse Walton, Geo Russell, Jas. Stewart, and Benj. Clark were appointed commissioner to lay out and direct its buildings
page 241. Geo Russell Capt. from Washington Co.Tenn. Batle of King's Mountain under Col.Sevier.

page 261. 1780. On return march of the army from King's Mountain, Sevier apprehending an outbreak from the Cherokees in the absence from the frontier of so many men and guns, detached Capt. Russell home, as soon as the riflemen with the prisoners had safely crossed the Catawba Russell returned by a rapid march and found that Sevier's apprehensions were well founded. Two traders Thomas and Harlin, brought information from the Cherokee towns that a large body of Indians were on the march to assail the frontier. The men composing Capt. Russell's Command continued their organization. Col. Sevier soon after with his victorious companions in arms reached their homes in good time to repel the savage invaders without a days rest he sat on foot another expedition

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Vol. 9. page 536. N.C.State and Col. Records. Vol.22. page 879
Abel Gower allowed a claim Feb. 24, 1773.
Vol. 24. N.C. State and Co. Records. paged 629-30
Russell Gower allowed land 600 acres in Davidson Co. free of expense by N.C.
Abel Gower Jr. and Sr. both mentioned.

Virginia. 1679- House of Burgess. Assembled April 25. Henrico Co...
Abel Gower.

Gowers from England. to Virginia.

See Russell family.

See Head & White fam. of Rob. Co.

GOWER

Davidson County, Tennessee marriages.

page 32 Elisha Gower to Prudence Coon. Dec. 22, 1790

page 43. Wm.Gower to Charlotte Garland Jan. 15, 1802

page 55. Samuel Gower to Celia Koen Jan.30, 1807

~~Moss~~ Benjamine Moss to Nancy Gower. Aug. 6, 1806. Page 55.

Page 59. Elisha Gower to Jemima Patterson May 5, 1810

Page 73. Allen George to Tenbe Russell. Nov. 21, 1803.

Page 73. Alexander Gower to Eddy Evans. Sept. 23, 1803

page 140. Wm.G. Gowen to Patsey Gower. Feb.10, 1812.

Page 86. Shows Felix Robertson married Lydia Waters Oct. 8, 1808

Page 120. Bernard McKierran to Marianna Waters. June 15, 1811

page 127. Asa Beckton to Judith Johns. Sept. 26, 1812

Page 135.
Jno. Binningfield to Nancy Russell July 19, 1813

page 143. Wilson Gower to Charlotte Baird, Nov. 22, 1812

Page 152. Wm. Gower to Mary Crutcherfield. Mar. 30, 1814.

page 156. Churchwell Hooper to Nancy Russell. Aug. 23, 1814

Page 163. Neal Hopkins to Nancy Johns. Sept. 2, 1815.

Page 167. Jno. Dougherty to Polly Russell June 24, 1816

page 180. Thomas S. Shannon to Catherine Waters. Feb.19, 1817 married Feb.27, 1817 by Wm.Hume. Minister.

page 186. Thomas Smith to Patsy Gower. Sept. 4, 1817

page 99. Jas Russell to Elizabeth Dunn, Dec. 25, 1809

page 200. John Little to Patsy Johns Sept. 28, 1818 Sept. 30, 1818. by Joel Anderson

Page 201. Larkin Scott to Peggy Russell Nov. 7, 1818 bu W. Russell J.P Nov.10,1818.

Page 210. Wm. Shelton to Jane Gower. July 20, 1819 July 29, 1819 by G.S. Allen J.P.

page 223. Thomas Russell to Ann Hooper June 13, 1820 July 19, 1820 by W. Russell J.P.

Page 233. Robert Gower to Agnes Burnley Sept. 25, 1799

Page 236. Thomas Green to Sally Johns Jan.29, 1800

Page 322. Russell Gower to Nancy Boyte, Dec. 16, 1826. Dec. 21, 1826. by B.Lee J.P.

Page 362. Abel B. Gower to Alpha David Jan.30, 1829. Feb. 3, 1829. by Wm Lytle J.P

Continued from over.

page 14. James Reaves to Polly Gower. July 8, 1800.

page 14. Jno.Miller to Prudence Gower. Mar. 20, 1797

Page 29. Josiah Sugg to Elizabeth Johns Aug. 14, 1797

page 45. Thomas Williams to Nancy Gilliand. Sept. 15, 1802 (Gilliland)

Davidson County, Tenn. Will Book 1 and 2
page 34. Elisha Gower inventory admr. Prudence Gower. 1795. October Court.

Book 2-3 page 161. Inventory of Elisha Gower, Elisha Gower Inventory returned to Court April term 1807 by Wm. Gower admr.
This takes care of propery not taken care of by Prudence Gower. She was Prudence Miller.

Davidson Co. Tenn. N.C. July 21, 1789. Book A of deeds. Jas. Russell Russell deed.

Grant No. 263. from North Carolina May 20, 1790. Elisha, Elisha and William Gower located Nov. 2, 1784.

Mr.Woodwards notes on Gower. See also Russell family and his notes.

Gower family from England. Abel Gower came to Va. 1650. Worchestershire family. Died Henrico Co. Va. 1686.

Abel Gower Sr. of Tenn was a son of an Abel Gower of Va. No proof.

Abel Gower Sr. of Tenn. moved to Wake Co.N.C. 1754.
Abel Gower Sr. was a brother of Mary Gower wife of ______ Robertson. Mother and father of James Robertson.

Mary was a daughter of an Abel Gower. Her early home was in Brusnwick Co. Va. but 1754 moved to Wake Co.N.C. and there to Tenn.
Joined Abel and Abel Gower Jr. came from Wake Co. N.C. His wife Obedience Blakeley she the first buried in Gower Cemetery 1816.

Ebel Gower Sr. wife was Mary and had daughter Nancy who married Andrew Lucas.

Abel Gower Jr. issue.

1. Russell killed 1780
2. Abel, killed 1780
3. Elisha died 1795. married Prudence Miller. X she later md. Miller
4. Elizabeth married James Russell
5. William born Oct. 26, 1776.

Abel Gower Jr. married in Wake Co.N.C. She a native of Wake Co.N.C.

GOWER FAMILY

Robertson County, Tennessee Census 1850. No. 1580 James Gower age 28 born Tenn. farmer. property $150.00. In his household at the time Permelia age 33 female; Hugh W. age 9, male; John R. age 5 male; James age 3 male; Louisa J. and 1 female; George F age 2 male; all born in Tennessee. AND Frances Head age 65 female born North Carolina.

No. 1447. Wilson S. Gower age 57 male, born Tenn, farmer, property $300. In his household --- Lucinda age 47 female, born North Carolina; Thursey E. age 22 female, ;Ephraim age 21 male; Hiram J. age 18 male, all born in Tennessee. Ephraim was a cabnit maker and Hiram J. was a farmer.

No. 1448. William E.C.Gower age 26 male,farmer, born Tenn. and in his household, Lavina E abe 1/12 female, born Tenn; Rosanna age 26 female born Tenn.

DAVIDSON COUNTY, TENN. CITY OF NASHVILLE. 1850 census.

No. 223. Mary J.Gower age *39 female born Virginia; In her family Her age probably 79 instead of 39 years. Mary Jr. Jr, age 21, female born Tenn; B.C. age 18 Margaret C.J. age 17 female; C.M.W. age 11 female; Lewis G.R.R. age 3 male. all born in Tennessee.

No. 347. John Gower age 22 born Tennessee, merchant. In his family no on else.

No. 638. L.F. Gower age 25 male, Physician. born Tenn . In his family- Rebecca age 24 female, born Virginia; A.J. age 4/12 of a year female born in Tenn.

No. 921. Margaret Gower age 45 female born in Pennsylvania. In her family no one other than herself.

No. 1158. John D.Gower agr 25 born Tenn. Merchant. In his house Elizabeth S. Gower age 16 female. born Tenn.

Continued other side this page

Davidson County, Tenn. 1850 census. Sub. Div. No.2. No.468.
Felix Gower age 26 born Tenn. Blacksmith. Property $1500;
with him Edward Hobbs age 29, male. born Tenn. Wagon Maker.

No. 598. Alexander Gower age 34 male born Tenn. a butcher. With him in his household Caroline age 32 female; Mary age 10 female; Ephraim age 8 male; Martha age 7 female; and Juliett age 2 female. all born in Tennessee.

No. 940. William Gower age 38 male born Tenn. a farmer and with him— Lucy age 37 female; Mary age 19 female; Nancy age k7 female; William age 13 male; Fountain age 11 male; Susan age 7 female; Elia age 5 female; Josephine age 2 female all born in Tennessee.

Sub. Division No.2. continued. No.974. Lorenzo Gower age 46 male, born Tenn. a farmer and in his household Nancy age 46, Delila age 19, William age 17, Tennessee age 15; Nathan age 12, James age 10; Lorenzo age 8, Susan age 6, Nancy age 6, all born in Tennessee. Also in same house Henry Robertson age 32 male, born Tenn, a sailor; and Mary Robertson age 21, born Tenn.

No.975. William Gower age 73 male born North Carolina. farmer. In his house Charlotte age 67, born South Carolina; Cynthia age 26, born Tenn.

No.1053 JOseph N.Gower age 41, and with him Elizabeth age 25, Sophronia age 15, Arnold age 12, Marilla age 9, Jamima age 7, Susannah age 3, and Jospeh age 9/12 of a year all born in Tennessee.

Sub, Division No.2. Dist. No. 25. Davidson County, Tenn 1850 census.
No.1. Francis M.Curtis age 8, Ellen E. Curtis age 7, Martha Curtis age 4 and Martha Curtis age 60 all born in Tennessee.

No.8 Gideon H.Gower age 21 and Mary age 20 both born Tennessee.

No.12. George F. Gower age 24, Martha age 23, and W.C. age 2/12 all born in Tenn. Property $500.

GOWER FAMILY

Elisha Gower (son of ELijah, son of Abel Jr, son of Abel Sr., Goweer). was born in Davidson County, Tennessee 1790 and died in Davidson County, Tennessee in 1853. He was married twice. His second wife was Sally Fowler whom he married January 12, 1818. Their daughter Sarah Catherine Gower born 1835 died 1915, married in Cheatham County, Tennessee Jany 14, 1853 John Perry.

Elisha Gower lived on the road from Fuqua's Mill to Wilson Crockett's place in April 1818 (Min. Book 1816-9 page 571 Davidson County. Tenn. Records).

Davidson County, Tenn. Will Book 1826-1832 page 232. Deborah Fowler her support (Abstracted) Commissioners lay off years support provisions for Deborah Fowler late widdow of William Fowler, deceased and her family. January Court 1828.

Page 233 of same book. William Fowler , deceased, Inventory and account of slae. Among the purchasers-- James Russell, Deborah Fowler, Mastin Ussery, Sterling Fowler, G. Rape, Thomas Ferebee, Thomas Pack, There is a Bible listed among the items sold. Also purchasers L. Lake, P. Strange, Henderson Fowler. Signed by Deborah Fowler, Admrx. 28 July 1826,

Page 397 of same. May 11, 1830 Receipt from the heirs of William Fowler names William Mays and wife Veronica, Sterling Fowler, Fleming H.Fowler, Thomas J. Fowler. Mastin Ussery and wife Elizabeth.

ELIJAH GOWER, (son of Abel Jr, son of Abel Sr.,) was born in Davidson County, Tenn, 1775. It was then a part of North Carolina. He died He was killed by the Indians at Cumberland River 1795 in October. He married in Davidson County (then N.C.) Dec. 22, 1790. That section was then called the Mero District of North Carolina. He married Prudence Coon (Koen). He had a second wife who was a Miller.

Elisha Gower , above mentioned was a son of Elijah Gower. Note one was named Elisha and the other Elijah Gower.

The Davidson County, Tenn, marriage book No.1. page 14. shows John Miller to Prudence Gower March 20, 1797. The Davidson County, Marriage Book No.1 and 2. page 34 shows Elisha Gower to Prudence Coon, December 22, 1790.

In Davidson County, Will Book 1 and 2 page 34. Elisha Gower Inventory Admrs. Prudence Gower. October Court.

Davidson County, Tenn. Will Books 2 and 3 page 161. **Inventory of** Elisha Gower, Elisha Gower Inventory retarned to Court April Term 1807 by Wm.Gower, administrator. This takes care of the pr [illegible] not taken care of by Prudence Gower. By thism time she was Prudence Mill.

In the Tennessee Grants. Grant No. 263 from North Carolina May 20, 1790, Elisha Gower. Elisha Gower and William Gower located Nov. 2, 1784.

Elisha Gower, son of Abel Gower , Sr. granted land by North Carolina for his services in protecting the fort at Nashville then called Nashboro. He settled about 1795 or 1796 on Bull Run in edge of what is now Cheatham and Davidson Counties. He was buried in Davidson County on Bull Run, on his grant until a few years ago his grave was marked with a stone, but in recent years the stone had been removed and a garden planted on that land at that spot. (Information from Gower family to SRW).

Abel Gower Jr. son of Abel Gower Sr., was born in Virginia 1760. He was Massacerred by the Indians at Cumberland River 1780. He married Obedience Blakely. She was the first person buried in the Gower Graveyard in Davidson County. Tenn. She died April 16, 1816. Buried in Gower Graveyard at the home of Wm.Gower.

Among the children of Abel Jr, and Obedience his wife, was Elijah Gower born 1775. Married Dec. 22, 1790 Davidson County N.C. (now Tenn.) Prudence Coon (Koen).

Abel Gower Senior, was born in Virginia circa 1730. He died at Clover Bottom, Cumberland River Massacre 17[illegible]. His wife wasa named Mary Elizabeth.

They were parents of Abel Gower Jr. who married Obedience Blakely.

Abel Gower Sr. (wife Mary) was a brother of [illegible] Gower, the mother of James Robertson who came from Brunswick County, Virginia to Wake County, North Carolina, near Raleigh in 17[illegible]4. In 1770 they moved to the Watauga Settlement in what is now Upper East Tennessee.

Brunswick County, Virginia Deed Book No.6. page 640. 23 March 1761 Russell Blackley of the County of Brunswick sold Abel Gower of said county, for 6 pounds current money of Virginia Blackley sold Gower a tract of land 80 acres in Brunswick County on Meherrin Branch.

Brunswick County,Virginia Deed Book 7 page 187. October 25, 1762 Abel Gower of Brunswick County sells Richard Rains land in Brunswick for 19 pounds current money of Virginia, 80 acres adjoining ISaac Adams line on Meherrin Branch. Obedience Gower released her right. Witnessed by Henry Jackson, Wood Tucker and Russell Blackley.

GOWER

Mary Gower married John Randolph Robertson in Brunswick Co. Va. 1739 moved to Wake Co. N.C. 1750.
Abel Gower was her father.
What connection is she and Abel Gower of Brunswick Co. Va.
Jno. Randolph Robertson and Mary Gower parents of James Robertson.

Robertson Co Tenn. Marriages Vol. 1.

p 67 James W. Gower and Milly Head. 12 Nov. 1841
Solm. Nov. 16-1841 William Shaw. M.G.

p 36 Larkin Gower + Rhapsy Grimes
7 July 1841.
Solmnd. July 18-1841 William Shaw G.M.

P. 164 William E. Gower + Rosannah Dysham
10 Feb. 1849. Solm Robt Draughon J

GOWER

See Curtis family for more of Gower family of Virginia.

Davidson County, Tennessee. Twelfth District. Beginning on South bank Cumberland River to Charlotte Pike to Richland Creek up to Hardin or Richland turn pike to Charlotte Pike. To Cheatham County line to Jos. Russell's to Pond Creek to Cumberland River.
Hillsboro was made voting precinct near Center, south of Bell's Bend is Gower's Chapel.

William Gower paid taxes 1816.

District 25 Davidson County. Little Marrow-bone Creek where Cheatham Co. lines crosses the stream. follow to Creek near Joe Russells then to Cumberland River. then up river to Hyde's Woodyard at neck of White's Bend, between Sulphur and Eaton's Creek, on three folks of Marrow-bone creek. Elisha and Wm. E. Gower and James Sr., William and Thomas Russell.

Davidson Co.Tenn. Book 4 records. Page 121. Sherrod Brian. his freedom Jan. 12, 1811 State of North Carolina, Granville Co. Mar. 1806. a negro set free.

Davidson Co. Tenn. Inventory and wills book 4 page 356. Stephen Johns

Davidson County, Tenn. Russell Gower granted land July 26, 1784.

Virginia Archives, Richmond Va. Henrico Co. records 1697-1704. Deeds. etc page 419. August the first 1704 Presented to ye court by Martha Gower the Relict and Admr. of Richd Gower, decd. and proved by her oath to be a true and perfect inventory of her deceased husbands estate to the best of her knowledge ye same being ordered upon ye order of court appointing appraisors & c..... (Test Ja.Cocks cl.cur.(According to order of court.
(& whom it is Recd.

May 31, 1704.
The Estate of Richd Gower deceased...... Dr. etc. etc.
Henrico Co. Court Aug. 1, 1704.

Signed MARTHA GOWER.

Presented to court by the Subscribed Martha Gower and the same being by in court examined and approved of is ordered to be recorded.

Test: James Cocke.

Colonial and State Records of North Carolina. Vol. 9. and 22. page 879. Abel Gower allowed a claim Feb. 24, 1773 Davidson Co.
Vol. 24. page 629-30 Russell Gower allowed land 600 acres in Davidson Co. free of expenses by North Carolina. Abel Gower Jr. and Sr. both allowed same.

Gower . House of Burgesses 1679 Assembled April 25. Henrico Co. Va. .... Abel Gower.

There were Gowers in Johnston and Mecklenburg Counties North Carolina in 1790.

Marriage book Davidson Co. Tenn. Book 1. page 47. Thomas Russell to Engley Gower. issued Nov. 13,1789.

GOWER

Henry Williams married Susannah Gower. in Richmond Co.Va. Sept.27,1726

Marriages of Knox Co. Tenn. by Kate White. Tenn Hist.Mag. Vol. VI 1920.
James Ruth to Rebecca Gower, July 6, 1799.

Early Virginia immigrants by Geo. Greer 1623-1666. page 132.
1. Edward Gower 1655 by Mr. John Mottrow. Northumberland Co.Va.
2. Jno. Gower 1653 by Jno. Edwards, Lancaster Co. Va.
3. Nicholas Gower. 1638 by Stephen Charlton. Accomack Co.Va.
4. Richard Gower 1637 by Percival Champion. New Norfolk Co.Va.

Burke's History of the Commoners Vol. 1. page 320. Gower, of Bill Hill. much on the family but of no value to this line and to the point desired to prove here.

Colonial Families of Virginia by McKenzie, Vol. 7. page 187.
Sarah Peirce daughter of Col.Wm. Pierce born in York Co. Va.1632 will 1702. Westmoreland Co.Va. married Stanley Gower of Richmond Co.Va.

Historical Collection of Georgia, by Joseph Habersham. page 321. Branch, (From "Water's Genealogical Gleanings). Deed, dated Dec. 1695 from Jane Gower for a tract of land given her by her father in law, Christopher Branch, of King's land conveys to Jno. Cocke and Obedience, his wife, who was Obedience Branch, daughter of Jno. Branch, deceased, who was the son of Jane Gower. Issue of Jane Branch is given in this book. p.439.

Descendants of Capt. Abel Gower father of Mary Gower, claim that he was of the Yorkshire Gowers now called Leveson-Gower, of which are the present Earl of Granville and the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Gower married the heiress of Lord Granville and they may be the way the latter name connects with the Cockrill family.

James Robertson's mother (founder of Nashville, Tenn). was Mary Gower daughter of Abel Gower of Brunswick Co. Va. He was said to be a Captain. NOT PROVEN.

Mr. Russell. of Nashville, Tennessee. says Mr.Joe Russell son of Joe Russell who was drowned , he a son of Joe and Tom a son of Joe. and Joe a son of James Russell, who was a preacher.
Dowdge or Joe was father of present Joe, married Louisa Young, a cousin of Mrs. Brattons of Nashville.

For Gower data see Russell family.

Stanley Gower left will . 24 May 1782. Wills 1800-1802. Book A. page 431 Bedford County, Virginia. Will of Stanley Gower. names Stanley, Son. Son John Craley Gower. Wife Ann.

Brunswick County Birginia. Will Book 5 page 12. William Gower's will 1778. Dated 29 August 1775 he only calls for his wife Ann Gower and no one else. Proved April 27, 1778 .

GOWER

Richmond County, Virginia will index.
Dec. 8, 1725 John Gower to Francis Gower. (will.Book 5 page 20).
Will of John Gower, of Richmond Co. Va. Dec. 8, 1725. Wife Susannah.
Son Francis.
Daughters Ann, Winnifred, and Elizabeth Gower.
Proved Oct. 5, 1726.

Richmond Co. Va. index to wills. Book 5 page 274.
Oct.27, 1732. John Gower from Stanley Gower. Will of Stanley Gower,
Richmond Co. 27 Oct. 1734-5 of North Farnham Parish. Son John.
Daughter Catherine. Daughter Munros (maybe Frances or Hannah ???) Sissons.
Son Stanley under age 21 years.
Daughter Ann Singleton. Proved April 5, 1735.

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RICHMOND COUNTY, Virginia. at Warsaw. Register of Farnham Parish in the Court House there. An old book.
Born, Katharine daughter of Stanley and Sarah Gower. Sept.24, 1720

John Gower, departed this life Jan. 7, 1726

Susannah Gower departed this life Dec. 11, 1726

Winnifred Gower departed this life May 20, 1727

Francis or Frances Gower departed this life April 16th, 1729

Born Francis son of Francis and Rachel Gower, Dec. 15, 1726

Jane a negro girl belonging to Stanley Gower born Feby 11, 1726
Hannah a negro girl belonging to Standley Gower died Feb. 7, 1729.
Rose a negro girl belonging to Standley Gower born Dec. 23, 1730
Rose a negro woman belonging to Standley Gower died July 29, 1731.

GOWER

Hon. Thomas Claghorn Gower born at Abbott, Piscataguis County, Maine, April 23, 1822, lived there until he was 19 and moved to Greenville South Carolina July 25, 1844 he married Jane Jones Williams of Williamston, Anderson Co. S.C. a daughter of West Allen Williams and granddaughter of Samuel Williams of Greenville Co. 14 miles southwest of Greenville village. He had a daughter married Capt. O.P.Mills of Greenville S.C.
He married secondly Feb. 26, 1867 Bettie S. Rowland nee Brooks daughter of Jno. Wesley and Melissa Duncan Brooks, She died Nov. 27,1872. Mr.Gower married third Oct. 28, 1873 Sallie A. Martin daughter of Jno. Campbell Martin and Mary A. Starke of Abbeville S.C. Mr. Gower's first wife died Aug. 4, 1866. He had son Arthur G.Gower.whoHon.Thomas C. Gower had issue

1. Susan Cordelia born Dec. 8, 1845
2. William H. born April 22, 1848 died Feb. 5, 1850
3. Mary E. born Nov. 11, 1852
4. Thomas E. born April 9, 1859 died Dec. 3, 1865
5. Arthur G. born Oct. 14, 1861
6. Charles E. born Nov. 19, 1863
7. Thomas E. born July 3, 1868 died July 3, 1869
8. Lola Elise born May 22, 1870
9. Brooks born Nov. 16, 1872 died Nov.16, 1872
10. Annie Mae born Aug. 31, 1874 died Sept. 1,1874
11. Sadie Mae. born Nov. 26, 1875 died April 4, 1876
12. Marie C. born Dec. 10,1877
13. Nell born 1878 died childhood
14. Thomas C. born Mar. 18,1880.

Mr. Thomas C. Gower was a Presbyterian and F ' A M. and I.O.O.F. and a democrat.

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John Randolph Robertson born Scotland 1677 (?) taken to Ireland with Charles Robertson; remained there a short time and then came to America, Settled first in Brunswick County,Virginia 1716. married Mary Gower born Jan. 27, 1716 daughter of Capt. Abel Gower a Naval Officer. Later moved to Wake Co. NC.

Ref: Robertson Family by J. Montgomery Seaver, Page 58. American Hist. Gen. Soc. Phila. Pa.
James Robertson married Ann McKenzie of Scotland (For MacKenzie Clan see Burke's Peerage).
Their son John Robertson married Eliza Ann Randolph, of Belfast, Ireland.
(A) John Randolph Robertson born in Scotland 1677 (?) taken to Ireland with Charles Robertson, remained there short time and then came to America, settled first in Brunswick C .Va.1716, married Mary (born Jan. 27, 1716) daughter of Capt. Abel Gower, Naval Officer), later moved to Wake County,N.C.

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Mrs. E.W. Foster of Nashville, Tenn. says.
Enclose find some Gower data.

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Davidson Co. Tenn. Marriages. book 2 . Joseph Russell married Tenn. Gower. Jan.9, 1838. issued Jan 6, 1838. Page 20.

Nashville, Tenn.
June 5, 1938
Murfreesboro Rd.

Miss Edythe Whitley,
% Nashville Times
141 Fourth Ave. N.
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Miss Whitley,

I read with a great deal of pleasure your column in the Nashville Times concerning the genealogy of the early families in Tennessee. I am just out of high school and have recently become interested in the genealogy of my own family, likewise one of the first in Tennessee. As my present pursuits are also my first, I have had rather a difficult time in many respects, nevertheless, I enjoy the time put into the work very much. My greatest hindrance lies in the fact that there is no family Bible in existence to rely on for the certain fundamental facts on which I am to build. Rev. Jas. Woodward's "History of the Gower Family" helped me considerably in ascertaining my earliest forefathers in this state but this pamphlet deals mainly with the descendants of William Gower, son of Abel Gower, Jr. and Obedience Blakely Gower. I am not of this line but am descended from Elisha, brother of William Gower and son of same Abel, Jr.

To be quite frank, I have infinitely more information about the family in England than in America. This was very graciously given me by Sir Robert Gower, M.P., who lives in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. He is a member of the Society of Antiquaries and genealogical societies in England. I received two pedigrees from him, one taking the family back to William the Conqueror on the feminine side, and the other going as far back as 1500. Of course, this interested me ~~me~~ no little. The actual link between England and America is one of the present difficulties as I have not found enough definite information about Captain Abel Gower (who, by the way, was James Robertson's grandfather) who was supposedly the first of the line in America. He, as far as I can find, settled in Brunswick County, Va., where his daughter, Mary Gower, met and married John Randolph Robertson.

It is my sincere desire to find more information about my family and especially to link Capt. Abel on to the family in England. Sir Robt. Gower, in his letter to me, states that the line in America is undoubtedly a continuation of the Worchestershire line in England because of the given name Abel which so often appears in America in connection with the family.

If you feel that you have a few minutes to spare, I should certainly like to have your suggestions as to how I should continue my genealogical research.

Sincerely yours,

Herschel Gower

file Gower

1506 - 21st St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C.,
November 5, 1933.

Dear Mrs. Whitley:

I note from the Handbook of American Genealogy that you are interested in the Gower family.

My line of Gower descent:

1. Francis Gower, in Lancaster County, Virginia, as early as 1653. Married Mary ________.
2. Francis Gower, of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia. Married Anne Clarke, daughter of Henry and Joan Clarke of the same County.
3. John Gower of Richmond County, Virginia. Married Esther, daughter of Richard Greene.
4. Anne Gower, married William Thrift of Richmond County.
5. Esther Thrift, married John Rochester of Westmoreland County, Virginia.
6. Esther Rochester, married Reuben Pyles, in Granville County, North Carolina; moved to South Carolina.
7. Nancy Pyles, b. 1780; married George Barmore; she moved from South Carolina to Alabama and Arkansas.
8. William Barmore, of Pickens Co., Ala.; married Elizabeth Tennessee Morriss.
9. Mary Parthenia Barmore, b.1838; married Jonathan Crews Bell.
10. Alice Ardena Bell, b. 1864, Pickens Co., Ala., married Louis Neal Henry.
11. Louis Carr Henry.

Is the Gower family in which you are interested?

Very truly yours,

Carr Henry

Mrs. Edythe R. Whitley
2710-Belmont Blvd.,
Nashville, Tenn.

Nov. 19, 1933.

Mr. Carr Henry,
1506- 21st St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

Re: Your letter Nov. 5-1933.-----GOWER FAMILY.

Some of your data interest me. I am trying to locate parents of Abel Gower of Brunswick County Virginia. His daughter Obedience and son Abel married into family of James Robertson founder of Nashville. Tenn.

I am very anxious to get parents of Abel Gower born about 1716 and who lived in Brunswick Co. Va. I do not find anywhere any parents that seen to fit for his. I think he is of the Lancaster County Family but cannot prove same. This is not Capt. Abel Gower who married into the Branch family and who was in House of Burgesses. I think my Abel Gower is a connection of the House of Burgess man.

Thanks for your interest and if I can be of help to you will be glad to do so.

Yours truly,

____

Brunswick Co. Va. deeds

William Gower & wife to Henry Wilkins ~~deed~~ x lease 1741 book (2) page 119

Novr. 4- 1741, William Gower & Anne his wife of the county of Brunswick to Henry Wilkins of Prince George County. William Gower and Anne his wife for five shillings sell ~~xxtx~~ to Henry Wilkins 200 acres in St. Andrews Parish in Brunswick Co. Va. on Reedy Branch adjoining John Jackson's corner, signed by William Gower & Anne Gower and witnessed by George G. Mabrey and James Banks.

William Gower to JohnMaclin deed 1754 book (5) page 527

Feb. 26- 1754 William Gower of Brunswick Co. and St. Andrews Parish to John Maclin on same. land in Brunswick County. Anne Gower with her husband signs the deed.
no witnessed.

Abel Gower from Russell Blackley deed 1761 book (6) page 640

23 March 1761 Russell Blackley of the county of Brunswick to Abel Gower of said County. for 6pounds current mo ney of Va. Blackley sells to Gower a tract of land 80 acres in Brunswick County on Meherrin Branch.

Abel Gower & wife to Richard Rains deed 1762 boo k (7) page 187

October 25- 1762 Abel Gower of Brunswick Co.to Riahcrd Rains of the same. for 19 pounds current money of Va. Gower sells Rains land in Brunswick County 80 acres adjoining Isaac Admanses line on Meherrin Branch .
Obedience Gower relinquished her right. witnessed by Henry Jackson, Wood Tucker, and Russell Blackley.

GOWER

Rev. William Gower, born Nov. 6, 1776 died Oct. 11, 1855.
Charlotte Gower born July 1, 1782 died April 16, 1860.
Nancy L. Gower born March 19, 1805 died Oct. 7, 1885
Lorenzo D. Gower born Sept. 27, 1808 died July 11, 1802.
Buried Gower Graveyard at Gower Chappel and School house near River road leading to Cheatham Co. from Charlotte Pike.

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GOWER

Davidson County, Tenn. records wills 2 1795-6. p. 34. Inventory of Elijah Gower, deceased. Oct. 1795. by Prudence Gower, admr. mentions among other things one Bible.

GOWER

Abel Gower Sr. a native of Brunswick Co. Va. moved to Wake Co. N.C. 1750 and to Cumberland Settlement at Nashville 1779. Settled Gower's Island. His wife was Mary. He was Captain of the Company to protect the Fort and was killed by the Indians while up the river for the purpose of gathering corn at Clover Bottom. His daughter Mary Gower was the mother of James Robertson, who had before coming to the fort married John Randolph Robertson.

Abel Gower Jr. a soldier and patriot as well as pioneer, received much note for his services in the Cumberland Settlement and founding of Nashville. He received grants from the State of North Carolina for his services. Lived and died in Davidson County where the name is still one always linked with the early history of the settlement.

Russell Gower son of Abel Gower Sr. was killed at the same time his father was killed. He received a number of land grants from the State of North Carolina for his patriotic activities with the Indians at the Cumberland Settlement.

Elisha Gower, another son of Abel Gower, Sr. granted land by North Carolina for his services in protecting the fort at Nashville. He settled about 1795 or 1796 on Bull Run in the edge of Cheatham and Davidson County. He was buried in Davidson Co. on Bull Run, on his grant. Until a few years ago his grave was marked with a stone but in recent years the stones have been removed and a garden planted thereon.

GOWER

D.A.R. Tenn. State Report. 1930. p. 180. Obedience Gower daughter of Capt. Abel Gower, buried in family graveyard near Charlotte Pike. Davidson Cº. Tenn.

Woman Takes Life In Home by Hanging

Mrs. Dorothy Matthews Gower, 60, was found dead in the basement of her home at 1024 Fairwin Avenue early yesterday afternoon, after she had apparently committed suicide by hanging herself, according to the death certificate.

She was the widow of Owen Henry Gower.

John Cole, special investigator for the attorney general's office, said last night that Mrs. Gower's body had been cut down by neighbors and was lying in the basement when he arrived.

Dr. Cleo M. Miller signed the death certificate for the woman and stated that she had "hanged by the neck."

Relatives of the woman said that she had been ill for the past four months and had recently suffered a nervous breakdown.

Private funeral services will be conducted at the residence tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock by Dr. Roger T. Nooe and Dr. E. B. Crain. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Born, reared, and educated at Glasgow, Ky., Mrs. Gower moved to Nashville at the age of 18. Her husband, a native of Bordeaux, died 16 years old. They were married in 1902.

She was a member of the Vine Street Christian Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Joe L. Cooksey; brothers, J. W. Matthews and Guy E. Matthews, both of Miami, Fla.; and three nephews and one niece.

Mrs. Blanche Gower Dies of Heart Attack

Mrs. Blanche Farnum Gower, 74, widow of Joe G. Gower, died unexpectedly at 7:30 o'clock this morning at her home, 3002 Medial Avenue, of a heart attack.

The body is at the residence, where funeral services have been tentatively scheduled for tomorrow. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Complete funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Mrs. Gower was born April 17, 1871, at Tullahoma, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. George W. Farnum.

When she was about six years of age, she moved to Nashville with her parents and received her education in the local schools.

About 56 years ago she was married to Mr. Gower, an employe of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway. He died 35 years ago.

Mrs. Gower was one of the oldest members of the West End Methodist Church and was active in its affairs.

She is survived by two sons, W. H. and Joe G. Gower; three daughters, Miss Nellie Mai Gower, Mrs. H. E. Fraser, all of Nashville; Mrs. Shelton Appleton of Albertsville, Ala.; one sister, Mrs. J. W. Griffith, Sr., of Nashville; five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gower

Funeral services for Mrs. Elizabeth Williamson Gower, 62, of 205 Thirty-eighth Avenue, North, were conducted this afternoon at the Park Avenue Church of Christ, with H. M. Phillips and Carl York Smith officiating. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Mrs. Gower died at 4 p. m. Saturday at a local infirmary following about a year's illness.

Born and educated at Nolensville, Tenn., Mrs. Gower had been a resident of Nashville for about the past 50 years.

She was a member of the Park Avenue Church of Christ.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. W. H. Hollingsworth and Miss Viola Gower; a son, C. L. Gower, Jr.; a sister, Mrs. W. C. Arnold; a brother, Henry Williamson, all of Nashville, and two grandsons.

GOWER—Tuesday morning, March 12, 1946, at 7:30 o'clock at her home, 3002 Medial Ave., Mrs. Blanche Farnum Gower. Survived by her sons, W. H. and Joe G. Gower; daughters, Miss Nellie Mai Gower, Mrs. H. E. Fraser and Mrs. Shelton Appleton of Albertsville, Ala.; sister, Mrs. J. W. Griffith, Sr.; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Body rests at her home, 3002 Medial Ave. Services from Scales Chapel, (West End Methodist Church), Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock conducted by Dr. King Vivion. Interment Mt. Olivet. The following are serving as pallbearers: Douglas Blair, Robert Heriges, J. W. Griffin, W. H. Fisher, Green Benton, Jr., Frank Provost, Charlie Cheshire, Edward Seaton. Rollow & Donnelly, 1715 Broadway.

QUERY 1,029.

GOWER (a)—The Georgia Roster of the Revolution shows that Abel Gower received a land grant in Gwinnett County, Georgia, for services in the Revolution. Data desired as to his wife, children and ancestry. Did he have a son, John W.?

ELKINS (b)—In what county of Georgia did Thomas Elkins, Revolutionary soldier, live?—MRS. McCALLISTER PEARCE, Lone Holly Plantation, Proctor, Ark.

GOWER

DAVIDSON Co. Tenn.Minutes, 1816-1819. p. 461. Jan. 31
1818 Court. Thomas Hickman guardian to orphan of
Alexander Gower.

GOWER

Index to wills in Virginia before 1800.
Standley Gower in Bedford Co. Va. 1782 will.
William Gower in Brunswick Co.Va. will 1778.

GOWER

L.D Gower born Sept. 27, 1808 died July 11, 1892.
Charlotte Gower, born July 1, 1782 died April 16, 1860.
Rev. Wm. Gower born Oct. 6, 1776 died Oct. 11, 1851
Henry E. Kimbro born Nov. 22, 1850 died Sept. 12, 1890
A.J. Johnson born Sept. 24, 1842 died Jan. 28, 1910
Ina Christine Johnson born Feb. 8, 1906 died May 23, 1927.

Susan Bradford died July 26, 1904 aged 60 years.

[redacted]
B. D. WHITE, JUDGE
LYNNHAVEN, VIRGINIA

[redacted]
FOURTH TUESDAYS IN JANUARY,
MARCH, MAY, SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER
AND SECOND TUESDAY IN JULY.

S. B. BARHAM, JR., CLERK

OFFICE OF
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Surry County
SURRY, VIRGINIA

W. STANLEY BURT
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY
CLAREMONT, VIRGINIA

June 26, 1929.

Mrs. Edythe Rucker Whitley,
1501 Paris Avenue,
Nashville, Tennessee.

My dear Mrs. Whitley:

Because my report must necessarily be of a negative nature doesn't mean that I have not searched religiously for both references you gave me among the records in this office. I have hunted before your last letter came and since, and I am quite sure that Archer Cheatham did not live in the County. Possibly the reason the fact of his son's birth being in Surry County is because they were visiting relatives here at the time, for there was a family of Cheathams living here but I have searched their wills, deeds and the order books and find not a sign of an Archer Cheatham. I am enclosing a note of what references I find about this date in case any of the given names may mean more to you than to me now.

Neither are the Gower or Hatchers of Surry County. I have looked well and find no will of Gower here. In looking over a few William and Mary Quarterlys that I have I find that there were Gowers in Richmond County at an early date -

> "October 2, 1692 - Stanley Gower being now dead, Angess Jacobus, who married Elizabeth, aunt to the orphans by their mother's side, to perform all the trusts given Stanley Gower by the will of Francis Gower........."
>
> and
>
> "April 6, 1693 - Stanley Gower, infant son of Francis Gower, summoned to answer the bill of James Orchard."

Also I find that there was an Abell Gower in Henrico at a very early date - mentioned as head of family in 1679 I think, who was a member of the House of Burgesses and Sheriff of the County. Mr. Torrence, (who writes the article in the W. & M. Quarterly) says that "Abell Gower left no male issue at least so far as the extant records show." I presume you have these references but just mentioned them in passing as you are not yourself in Virginia. I understand that the old records of Richmond County are (if in existance at all) in Essex County. No there does not seem ever to have been an Abell Gower or any one else of the name in Surry County. I forgot to say that a part of Brunswick County was formed from Isle of Wight County so it is possible that the record could be there.

Very truly yours,

Virginia E. Savedge D. C.

Brother, Sister Train WAVES, WAFs

Herschel Gower, USNR, and Jennie Lou Gower, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Gower of Murfreesboro Road, form a brother-sister team which is responsible for turning out Navy personnel and women pilots.

One of six Tennessee women to be graduated from the Tennessee Aviation Research Instructors' School for Women in January of this year, Miss Gower has been teaching at the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron school at Sweetwater, Texas, since June 20. At the Texas school, Miss Gower gives the WAF's their primary training in the PT-19 ships.

Before going to Sweetwater, she instructed Army and Navy pilots at Potales, N M.

Miss Gower, who attended the University of Tennessee Junior College and Cumberland University, started flying in a Civilian Pilot Training program at the latter school and received secondary CPT at Vanderbilt University. She is currently visiting her parents here.

Miss Gower's brother, a graduate of Montgomery Bell Academy and Cumberland University, has been an instructor in airplane structures and hydraulics at the Millington, Tenn., Naval Air Base since January. His students include WAVES and women Marines as well as regular Navy and Marine personnel.

Gower received his training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station after entering the Navy in August, 1942.





Miss Ida M. Gower

Funeral services for Miss Ida M. Gower of Buffalo Road, Route 2, who died yesterday morning, will be held tomorrow at 2 p. m. at the Buffalo Methodist Church, of which she was a member. The Rev. J. N. Wilson will officiate, assisted by Dr. H. M. Jarvis. Burial will be in Gower burial ground near Newsom Station.

A native of Newsom Station, Miss Gower died at the home of her sister, Mrs. R. F. Mingle, 4502 Park Avenue, following an extended illness.

She is survived by two other sisters, Mrs. T. J. Still and Mrs. O. B. Williams, both of Nashville.

Miss Johnie E. Gower

Funeral services for Miss Johnie E. Gower, who died this morning at a local nursing home, will be held tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock at the John C. Roesch Funeral Home. The Rev. W. F. Powell will officiate. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

A native of Bordeaux, Tenn., she was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John and Elizabeth Hill Gower. She received her education in Davidson County schools.

Miss Gower was a nurse at City View Sanitarium and at the Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church and of the Fidelis Bible Class.

GOWER—Tuesday, September 30, at 8 a. m., at a local hospital. Felix D. Gower, age 39 years. Survived by daughter, Marguerite; sons, Felix, Jr., and Carlton Gower; sisters, Mrs. I. H. Meador and Mrs. Marion Williams; brothers, W. R. and Eugene Gower. Remains are at funeral home of Burkitt, Son & Cullum, 4503 Charlotte Avenue, where funeral service will be held Wednesday at 2:30 p. m., conducted by Rev. G. L. Cullum. Pallbearers, William and Frank Gower, Robert and Frank Williams, R. L. Sherrell, and A. L. Presley. Interment, Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

GOWER

Davidson Co. Tenn. ----- James Russell married Elizabeth Gower daughter of Elisha Gower of NC. 1796.
Thomas Russell married Engley Gower Nov. 13, 1789.

For the Russell-Gower connections see "Rev. James Russell history--- Davidson Co. Tenn. " by E. Whitley. also Russell notes this collection by E. Whitley.

Davidson Co. Tenn. marriages. Book. 1. page 47. Thomas Russell to Engley Gower issued Nov. 13, 1789 married by B. Weakley J.P.

Davidson Co. Tenn. marriages in the name of Gower.
Book.1. page 32. Elisha Gower to Prudence Coon, Dec. 22, 1790
Page 43. Wm. Gower to Charlotte Garland Jan. 15, 1802
Page 55. Samuel Gower to Celia Joen Jan. 20, 1807
Moss Benjamine to Nancy Gower Aug. 6, 1806.
Page 59. Elisha Gower to Jemima Patterson May 5, 1810
Page 73. Allen George to Tenbe Russell, Nov. 21, 1803.
Page 73. Alexander Gower to Eddy Evans Sept. 23, 1803.
Page 140. Wm. G. Gower to Patsy Gower, Feb. 10, 1812.
Page 186. Thomas Smith to Patsy Gower, Sept. 4, 1817.
Page 210. Wm. Shelton to Jane Gower. July 20, 1819.
Page 233. Robert Gower to Agnes Burnley Sept. 25, 179?.
Page 322. Russell Gower to Nancy Boyte, Dec. 16, 1826.
Page 362. Abel B. Gower to Alpha David Jan. 30, 1829.
Page 14 James Reaves to Polly Gower July 8, 1800
Page 14. Jno. Miller to Prudence Gower. Mar. 20, 1797

Davidson Co. Tenn. Will Book 1-2. page 34. Elisha Gower inventory. admr. Prudence Gower 1795. Oct. Court.
W. B. 2-3. Davidson Co. page 161. Inventory of Elisha Gower returned to Court April term 1807 by Wm. Gwoer Admr. This takes care of property not taken care of by Prudence Gower She was Prudence Miller.

Tenn.Grants. Land office issued by N.C. May 20, 1790. Elisha, Elisha and William Gower. Located Nov. 2, 1784.

Rev. Woodward's notes on Gowerfamily, a privately owned collection in his possession 1929.
Abel Gower came to Virginia 1650 of Worchestershire family. Died Henrico Co.Va. 1686.
Abel Gower Sr. of Tenneseee was son of Abel Gower of Virginia.
Abel Gower of Tenn. a citizen of Brunswick Co. Virginia 1725.
Abel Gower later of Tenn. called Abel Sr. moved from Virginia to Wake Co. N.C. 1754.
Abel Gower Sr. was a brother of Mary Gower wife of ___ Robinson. mother and father of James Robertson of Tenn.
Mary was a daughter of an Abel Gower.
Her early home was in Brunswick Co. Virginia but 1754 moved to Wake Co. N.C. and there lived a few years and moved to Davidson Co. Tenn.
Abel Gower Jr. came from Wake Co.N.C. to Tenn. His wife was Obedience Blakeley. She was the first person buried in Gower cemetery in 1816. Dav. Co.Tenn.

Abel Gower Sr. wife was named Mary and had a daughter Mary who married Andrew Lucas.

Abel Gower Jr. issue.
1. Russell Gower killed 1780
2. Abel killed 1780
3. Elisha died 1795. married Prudence Miller
4. Elizabeth married James Russell. (See Russell family).
5. William born Oct. 26, 1776.

Abel Gower Jr. married in Wake Co. N.C. His wife a native of Wake Co.N.C.

North Carolina State and Colonial Records. Vol 9. page 536. and Vol. 22. page 879
Abel Gower allowed a claim Feb.24, 1773.
Vol. 24. N.C. State and Col. Records. page 629-30. Russell Gower allowed land 600 acres in Davidson Co. free of Expense by N.C.
Abel Gower Jr. and Sr. both mentioned.

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Mary Gower married John Randolph Robertson in Brunswick Co.Va.1739 moved to Wake Co.Va. (should be N.C.) 1750
Abel Gower was her father

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The Curtis family of Virginia has a Gower connection. See Curtis Family of Va.

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William Gower paid taxes in Davidson County Tenn 1816.

Davidson Co.Tenn. Russell Gower granted land July 26, 1784

Virginia Archives. Richmond Va. records 1697-1704. Deeds. etc. page 419
August the first 1704 Presented to ye court by Martha Gower the Relict and Admr of Richd Gower, decd, and proved by her oath to be a true and perfect inventory of her deceased husbands estate to the best of her knowledge ye same being ordered recorded and apparsied. . May 31,1704.

Information stated by member of Gower family some thirty years ago. ... Elisha, Abel Jr., Mary and Tabitha Gower. sons and daughter of Capt Abel Gower Sr. His will 1689. He married first ___. Secondly he married Jane Hatcher Branch. Her will 1699. These of Henrico C .Va.

John Robertson married Mary Gower daughter of Abel Gower Sr. in Brunswick County, Virginia. John Robertson was father of Jas. Robertson founder of Nashville.

John Randolph Robertson was a son of James Robertson and his wife Eliza Randolph.

Joe Russell son of James, married in Tenn. Gower daughter of William Gower brother of Elisha, Elisha and William were both ministers one a Methodist and the other a Baptist.

Jno. and Jane Gower settled in Mississippi near Corinth.

Abel Gower, thought to have been in House of Burgesses in Virginia, was a Capt. Naval Officer.

GOWER

From a leaflet by Rev. J. E. Woodward, published in Nashville, 1920 regarding descendants of the Gower family of Davidson County, Tennessee I have the following information:

Abel Gower Senior, located at Gowers Fort which was probably about Gower's Island where Gower cemetery is located. Obedience Blakely married Abel Gower Junior. She died April 16, 1816, Buried on farm of her son William Gower.

Rev. William Gower and brothers .

Abel Gover Jr. and Obedience Blakeley Gower had:
1. Russell
2. Abel (3)
3. Elisha became a minister in the Baptist church (Later)
4. William (Later)
5. Probably others.

Elisha Gower died near Cumberland River below Nashville, leaving a large family (no record given by Woodward in his sketch)

William Gower (Abel Jr. , Abel Sr.) born Wake County, North Carolina October 26, 1776 . In early manhood came to Davidson County. He died near Nashville on the Cumberland River. In 1803 he lived on a farm where he was buried, that being the birth place of his oldest child. His wife was Peggy. He was licensed to preach Dec. 3, 1823. Married Charlotte Reevss born July 1, 1782 (niece of James Robertson). She was called Peggy. They married 1803 he being 26 and his wife 20 years of age. Their issue:
1. Lorenzo Dow, born Sept. 27, 1803.
2. Peggy born April 14, 1805 married Mr. Gatlin
3. Mark Robertson born April 3, 1806
4. Lavinia M. born Sept. 14, 1807
5. Abel Blakeley born Jan. 8, 1809
6. Nancy born Nov. 17, 1810
7. William T. born July 26, 1812
8. Charlotte Tennessee, born Mar. 7, 1814 married Russell.
9. Lucy Ann born Aug. 8, 1815 married Shuster
10. Sallie born June 29, 1817 married Newsom.
→ 11. James born Jan. 16, 1821
12. Nancy Cynthia born Aug. 9, 1823 married Wyatt
13. Leonidas born July 5, 1825.
14. Andrey Jackson born ____ died Feb. 26, 1829

Rev. William Gower , the father of the above family died suddenly Oct. 11, 1851. Charlotte his wife died April 16, 1860.

Lorenzo Dow Gower, (William, Able, Abel), born 1823 married Nancy Lucas Gatlin born March 19, 1805. Mr. Gower died July 11, 1892 and his wife died Oct. 8, 1885. Their children were:

Nancy Cynthia Gower (William, Abel, Able), married [illegible] [illegible], They had issue:

1. Felix Robertson born Aug.17, 1824 married Mary Fields.
2. John Douglas, born Oct. 20, 1825 married Elizabeth Wilson
3. Abel Lucas born June 27, 1827 unmarried
4. Mary Elizabeth born Nov. 24, 1828 married Henry P. Robertson.
5. Sarah Caroline born June 28, 1830 died young.
6. Delilah Garland born April 4, 1831 married William Woodward.
7. William A. born April 19, 1833 married Edna Grizzard
8. Amanda Tennessee born Dec. 1, 1834 married Benjmaine Turbeville.
9. Nathan M. born Nov. 30, 1836 married Tennessee Willford
10. James Albert, born Nov. 5, 1837 married Catherine Hows.
11. Susan Jane, born July 28, 1839 died young.
12. Lorenzo Dow born Dec. 22, 1840 died young.
13. Lorenzo Dow, 11, born Oct. 5, 1842 married Mary Ragan
14. Nancy Jane born March 2, 1844 married W.R. Scott.
15. Susan Lavinia born March 2, 1844 married John Bradford
16. Leonidas born ____ died young.

Charlotte Tennessee Gower (William, Abel, Able (Abel)), married Joseph Russell and had:

1. Missouri
2. Mary Jane
3. Delilah
4. George

Lucy Ann Gower (William, Abel, Able), born Se married March 1839 William Shuster, born May 16, 1811. She died Sept. 24, 1888 and he died May 25, 1867. They had:

1. William W. born Jan. 15, 1840 unmarried.
2. Marion Francis born Jan. 9, 1842 married Mary Knowles
3. James Gower, born Jan. 30, ____ died unmarried. Killed at Battle of Franklin 1864.
4. Mary Elizabeth born Sept. 27, 1844 married R.E. Hutson
5. Charlotte Patience, born Jan. 26, 1846 died unmarried
6. George born Dec. 25, 1847 married Mary G. Harris.
7. Nancy Delilah, born Aug. 2, 1849 married Ed. A. Johnson
8. Douglas born July 5, 1852 died unmarried
9. Benjamine Franklin, born July 4, 1854 died unmarried.
10. Louise Catherine born Aug. 2, 1856 died unmarried.
11. Lucy Ann Tennessee born March 1859 died young.

Sally Gower (William, Abel, Able), married Dec. 30-1834 William Newsom, born April 18, 1806. She died March 1, 1894 and he died Jan. 14, 1874. They had:

1. Martha married Thomas F. Hutton
2. Elizabeth married Francis B. Hows
3. James P. married Virgie Frazier
4. John married Elizabeth Hows
5. Lee married Judith Dozier
6. Andrew J. married Ellen K.Lovell.

GOWER

Davidson Co. Tennessee. records. Thomas Hickman was appointed guardian to the orphans of Alexander Gower by court Jan. 31, 1818 (Minute Book 1816- 1819. page 461).

Elisha Gower lived on the road from Fuqua's Mill to Wilson Crockett's in April 1818 (Min. Book 1816-9 page 571).

* * * * * *

GOWER

Davidson County, Tennessee, records in the name of GOWER.

Marriage Book 4. page 61. A.C.Gower married Rebecca Wilson. June 11, 1851.
Page 34. same, John Gower to L.S. Wilson. Oct. 17, 1850.

Informal Party Honors Members Of Gower Family

Sept. 21 1937

Mrs. L. R. Currey and Mrs. Lee Pope, Jr., entertained recently at the fifth reunion of the Gower family at their home on Curry Road. A picnic luncheon was served on the lawn, and the invocation was given by the Rev. H. M. Jarvis.

The next reunion will be held September, 1938, at the home of Mrs. R. F. Mingle and Mrs. O. Williams at their home on Park Avenue.

Those present were: Miss Susie Turbeville, Mrs. Susie Bass, Mrs. Elbert Woodward, Elbert Woodward, Jr., Mrs. T. J. Still, Miss Virginia Still, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Mingle, Mr. and Mrs. Harry V. L. Gower, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Williams, Misses Elizabeth and Louise Williams, Mr. Buford and James Williams, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christenberry, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Kenton, Mr. and Mrs. James Currey, Sr., James Gower Currey and George Hill Currey, Mr. and Mrs. John Currey, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Lovell, Tommie Buford, Jr., Henry R. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Gower, Mr. and Mrs. George Bugg, Mrs. Ella McLaughlin, Mrs. Jennie Lou Whitaker, Dr. H. M. Jarvis, Mr. F. G. Bradford, Miss Ida Gower, Mr. J. A. Gower, Miss Fannie Louis Currey, Mrs. Mattie T. Currey, Mr John G. Page, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Green; Martha Virginia Green, Mr. and Mrs. Phares T. Diehl, Beverly Diehl, Miss Mamie E. Jones, Miss Mary Frances and Nancy Pope, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pope, Jr., Mr. Lee Pope III, Mrs. L. R. Currey, Miss Nan Currey, Mr. Richard Currey, Mr. Louis Currey, Jr., Rev. Pickens Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lazenby, Sara Marvine Lazenby, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cullom, Howard, Jr., and Jack Cullom, Mrs. Aggie Taggert, Mrs. Minnie Longley, Mrs. Sallie Lazenby, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Woodward, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Jacobs, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Gold, Mr. Lee Head, Mr. M. D. Currey, Mrs. James A. Pettus, James G. and Duncan C. Pettus and Mrs. Duncan Currey.



HERSCHEL GOWER, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Gower, Murfreesboro Road, left Nashville last night for New York, where he will begin his Navy training aboard the Prairie State, in Hudson River. He took his preparatory schooling at Montgomery Bell Academy, and received his A.B. degree at Cumberland University in June. He was enlisted in the V-7 officer training program, and will have the rank of midshipman during his training, graduating as an ensign.

Family Reunion 7-18-1946

The eighth reunion of the Gower family was held recently at the home of Mrs. Jennie Lou Whittaker and Fred Bradford. Guests included: Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Gower and son, B. A., Jr., Miss Mamie E. Jones, Mary Eleanor Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Griff Jones, Griff Jones, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Lazenby, Sarah Lazenby, Alex Lazenby, Mrs. Sallie Lazenby, Mrs. Susie Bass, Will Bass, Henry Scott, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cullum, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Hicks and son, Billy, Mrs. E. F. Kenton, Mrs. Felix Gower, Martha Gower, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Mitchell and Ann and Bill Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ewing, W. A. Gower, Carrie Gower, W. A. Gower, Jr., Lorrell Gower, Carolyn Gower, L. Frank Gower, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Ewing, Annie Mai Ford, A. Jones, Mrs. M. S. Combs, Miss Odessa Hughes, Howard, Jr., and Jack Cullum, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Buford Williams, Mr. and Mrs. James Williams, Elizabeth Williams, Louise Williams, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bolton and Robert Bolton, Miss Ida Gower, Joe Gower, Mrs. Margaret Still, Virginia Still, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mingle, Mattie B. Gold, Thomas Cartwright, Ruby Cartwright, Sam Cartwright, Mrs. R. O. Currey, Fannie Louis Currey, Mike Halloran, Martha V. Green, Mrs. Marvin Green, Mrs. Duncan Currey, Mrs. L. A. Currey, Miss Nan Currey, Richard Currey, L. A. Currey, Jr., Mrs. L. A. Currey, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pope, Jr., Lee Pope, third, Mary Frances and Nancy Pope, Mr. and Mrs. James G. Currey, James Gower and George Hill Currey, Dr. H. M. Jarvis, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christenberry, Miss Susie Turbeville, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Baker, J. G. Bowman, William Baker, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cox, Mrs. Morton Newsome, Mrs. Barney Hows, John Hows, William Hows, Mr. and Mrs. James C. Hows, W. H. Anderson, Miss Mai Anderson, A. G. Ewing, J. A. Lazenby, Mrs. J. A. Lazenby, Sara Marvine Lazenby, James Alex Lazenby, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McKay, Mr. and Mrs. Harry V. L. Gower, and Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Diehl.

Rites Set Tomorrow For Lorenzo D. Gower

Former Grocer Dies After Long Illness

Funeral services for Lorenzo Dow Gower, 75, who died at his home, 4001 Alabama Avenue, early last night after a long illness, will be held tomorrow morning at the West Nashville Methodist Church at 10 o'clock, with the Rev. E. L. Crump officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Gower, a native of Davidson County, was a former West Nashville grocer and had operated a store there for over 40 years. He was a charter member of the West Nashville Methodist Church and had attended there for years.

He is survived by wife, Mrs. Davie B. Gower; daughters, Mrs. W. C. Boone, Mrs. L. M. Comstock, and Mrs. E. A. Holt; sons, L. D., Jr., and D. C. Gower; sisters, Mrs. Minnie Longley, Mrs. E. A. Bugg and Mrs. H. P. Jacobs; and one brother, Feliz S. Gower, Sr., 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Joe A. Gower

Funeral services for Joe A. Gower, 66, who died this morning at his home on Buffalo Road following a three weeks' illness will be held tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock at the Buffalo Methodist Church. The Rev. E. C. Parker, assisted by the Rev. W. J. Graham, will officiate, and burial will be in the Gower family cemetery on Buffalo Road.

Born in 1875, Mr. Gower has lived all his life at his home on Buffalo Road. He attended school in Davidson County.

He had been a farmer for the past thirty-five years. Before that time he was an employe of the NC&StL Railway in Nashville.

Mr. Gower was married in 1903 to Miss Lula Cotten of the Buffalo Road area. Mrs. Gower died in 1907.

He was a lifelong member of the Buffalo Methodist Church.

Survivors are, one daughter, Mrs. J. H. Bolton; two grandchildren, Robert David and Eleanor Jo Bolton, and four sisters, Miss Ida Gower, Mrs. T. J. Still, Mrs. O. B. Williams, and Mrs. R. F. Mingle, all of Nashville.

Oct 8 - 1934

Gower Family Has Annual Reunion.

The second annual family reunion of the Gower family was held recently at the home of Miss Ida Gower and her brother, Joe Gower, and his daughter, Miss Kathryn Gower, on Buffalo road.

Those present included the descendants of the Gower family who were settlers in this part of the state at the time of the founding of Nashville in 1780. A barbecue dinner was served on the lawn.

A history of the Gower family compiled by the Rev. J. E. Woodward was distributed. Plans were made for a third reunion to be held the second Sunday in September, 1935, at the home of Mrs. Sallie T. Lazenby near Brentwood.

Those present were: Miss Susie Turbeville, Mrs. Ella McLaughlan, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christenberry, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Currey, Miss Fannie Lewis Currey, Mrs. Marvin Green, Martha Green, Mrs. Lewis Currey, Richard and Nan Currey, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Currey, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. James Currey, James Gower Currey, Jr., George Hill Currey, Mrs. Lewis Pope, Mary Frances, Lee and Nancy Pope, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Gold, Tom Cartwright, Mrs. Sallie Lazenby, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lazenby, Alec, Melvin and Sam Lazenby, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lazenby, Mrs. T. J. Hobbs, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Lovell, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Gower, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Comstock, Mr. and Mrs. Will Gower, Mr. and Mrs. Will Gower, Jr., Frank Gower, Otis Meadors, Joe Gower, Misses Ida and Kathryn Gower, Mrs. Margaret Still, Virginia Still, Mr and Mrs. R. F. Mingle, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Williams, Misses Elizabeth and Louise Williams, Buford and James Williams, Mrs. Susie Bass, Mrs. Henny Lou Whitaker, Fred Bradford, Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Diehl, Miss Beverly Diehl, Miss Kathleen Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Kenton, Henry V. L. Gower, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Ewing, J. B. Hows, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Woodward, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cullom, Howard Cullom, Jr., Miss Annie Woodward.

Lorenzo Dow Gower

Funeral services for Lorenzo Dow Gower, 75, West Nashville grocer for more than 40 years, will be held at West Nashville Methodist Church Saturday morning, conducted by the Rev. E. L. Crump. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Mr. Gower, born in Davidson County and one of the original members of the West Nashville Methodist Church, died Thursday night at his home, 4901 Alabama Avenue, after an illness of more than two years.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Davie Byers Gower; three daughters, Mrs. W. C. Boone, Mrs. L. M. Comstock, and Mrs. E. A. Holt, all of Nashville; two sons, D. C. Gower of Detroit and L. D. Gower, Jr., of Nashville; three sisters, Mrs. Minnie Longley, Mrs. E. A. Bugg, and Mrs. H. P. Jacobs; and one brother, Felix S. Gower, Sr., all of Nashville.

SUBJECT: GOWER FAMILY
Where data found: Whitley's Genealogical Collection. 1604 South Observatory Drive Nashville, 12, Tennessee.
Owner of Collection: Mrs. Edythe Whitley, Genealogist-Historian ,same address
Date this copy made from file: May 1960.
This copy made for: ____ J.
FILED: Under G O W E R

(Taken from file as found, not assorted or re-arranged).

Knox County, Tennessee. Wills Book 1. page 143. Matthew Gower appointed administrator of Thomas Gower, decd.
page 144. Inventory of Thomas Gower deceased 1815.

page 160. Regarding Thomas Gower sale, Statement from Blount County,Tenn.by Wm. Burris and Isaac Wilburn regarding Mary Cartwright having money belonging to e state 1815.

W. Raymond Gower wrote August 4, 1954-- " I am anxious to trace the James Thomas Gower to either New Brunswick Canada or the state of Maine, where he settled in the vicinity of St.Stephen, N.B. Canada, or Calais, Maine, towns on either side of the International Boundary along the St.Croix river, Census reports in the State capitol at Augusta, Maine for the year 1860 show James Thomas Gower, at that time 64 years of age as having been born in Tenn, but no town given, in the year 1796. He was living at that time in the city of Calais, Maine."

Another note on the same subject as above by W. Raymond Gower, 1954. "I have just found out that my great grandfather is James Russell Gower and not James Thomas Gower as I originally thought."

The following sketch of the Gower family of Davidson County, Tennesee compiled by Edythe Whitley some twenty-five or more years ago....

The name Gower is English and was represented in Virginia by several very early immigrants, among whom were

Edward Gower 1655 transported by Mr. John Mottrow. to Northumberland County, Virginia.

John Gower 1653 transported by John Edwards to Lancaster County,Virginia.

Nich Gower 1638 transported by Stephen Charlton to Accomack County,Va.

Richard Gower, 1637 transported by Percival Champion to New Norfolk County, Va. (Early Virginia Immigrants by Greer 1623-1666. page 132.

One of the first pioneer families on the Cumberland at Nashville was the Gower family.

As early as 1653 the Gower family was established in Virginia and was represented by Francis Gower whose wife's maiden name was Mary. His son Francis Gower married Anne Clarke, daughter of Henry and Joan Clark, and resided in Old Rappahannock County,Virginia. Their son, John Gower, married Esther, daughter of Richard Greene and located in Richmond County,Virginia. Their daughter Anne Gower married William Thrift of Richmond County, and their daughter Esther Thrift married John Rochester of Westmoreland County,Virginia. They had a daughter Esther Rochester who married Reuben Pyles in Granville County,North Carolina and moved to South Carolina.

Nancy Pyles born 1780 was their daughter and married George Barmore. This family continued migration by moving to Alabama and later to Arkansas. Their son William Barmore, of Pickens County,Alabama, married Elizabeth Tennessee Morris and were parents of Mary Barthenia Barmore born 1838 who married Jonathan Creax Bell. (Foote Note. Lineage of Louis Carr Henry, of Washington. D.C.).

The Gower family as I have already said came to Virginia from England.

Tradition says, Abel Gower came to Virginia 1650 and was of the Worchestershire family of Gowers and that he died in Henrico County, Virginia 1686.

Abel Gower Senior, of Brusnwick County, Virginia was born 1725 moved to Wake County, North Carolina in 1754 and was a brother of Mary Gower who was wife of John Randolph Robertson and mother of General James Robertson of Nashville, Tennesse, frequently called " Father of Nashville".

Tradition further states, Mary Gower was a daughter of Captain Abel Gower and moved from Brunswick County, Virginia about 1734 to Wake County North Carolina and later to Nashville Tennessee.

Abel Gower of Tennessee married Obedience Blackley.

Abel Gower Senior, wife was Mary and they had a daughter Nancy who married Andrew Lucas another early settler in Tennessee.

Abel Gower had issue:
1. Russell killed 1780 by Idnains in Cumberland Settlement.
2. Abel killed 1780 by Indians in Cumberland settlement.
3. Elisha died 1795 married Prudence Miller
4. Elizabeth married Rev. James Russell (see Russell family lineage by E. Whitley).
5. William born October 26, 1776.

Abel Gower Junior marriedin Wake County, North Carolina, His wife was a native of Wake County.

Joe Russell son of James Russell married Tennessee Gower daughter of William Gower brother of Elisha. Elisha and William Gower both ministers onewas a Methodist and the other a Baptist.

John and James Gower located near Corinth, Mississippi.

The Honorable Thomas Claghorn Gower born at Abbott, Piscataguis, County, Me., April 23, 1822 lived there until he was nineteen years of age and moved to Greenville , South Carolina.

July 25, 1844 he married Jane Jones Williams of Williamston, Anderson County, South Carolina, a daughter of West Allen Williams and grand-daughter of Samuel Williams of Greenville County, fourteen miles southwest of Greenville village. Had a daughter married Captain O.P.Mills of Greenville, S.C. He married secondly Feb.26, 1867 Bettie S. Rowland nee Brooks daughter of John Wesley and Melissa Duncan Brooks. She died Nov. 27, 1872.

Mr. Gower married thirdly October 28, 1873 Sallie A. Martin daughter of Jno.Campbell Martin and Mary A. Starke of Abeville, South Carolina.

Mr. Gower by first wife had issue. Mr.Gower's first wife died Aug. 4, 1864, a son Arthur G.Gower who had:
1. Susan Cordelia born Dec. 8, 1845
2. William H. born Apr. 22, 1848 died Feb. 5, 1850
3. Mary E. born Nov. 11, 1852
4. Thomas E. born Ap. 9, 1859 died Dec. 3, 1865
5. Arthur G. born Oct.14, 1861
6. Charles E.born Nov.19, 1863.

From the Virginia State Archives at Richmond, Henrico County, Virginia, deeds 1697-1704 page 419. I find the following: August the first 1704. Present to ye co rt by Martha Gower the Relict and adminidtrator of Rich'd Gower, deceased and proved by her oath to be atrue and perfect inventory o her deceased husbands estate to the best of her knowledge ye same being ordered upon ye order of court appointing appraisers, & c. Test Ja. Cocks Cl. Cur. (According to order of court and whom it is Recd.

May the 31-1704 ete.etc.
Henrico Co. Court Aug.1, 1704
Signed Martha Gower. "

There is in Richmond County, Virginia in will book 5 page 20 the will of John Gower dated Dec. 8, 1725 naming wife Susannah, son Francis and daughter Ann, daughter Winnifred and Elizabeth another daughter, This will was proved October 5, 1726.

The will of Stanley Gower, Richmond County, Virginia, Book 5 page 274, dated 27 October 1734-5 calls him of North Farnham Parish and names a son John and a daughter Catherine. A daughter Francis or Hannah (married I believe Munroe Sissons (Sessions; a son Stanley then under twenty-one years of age and a daughter Ann Singleton, are mentioned therein. This will was proved April 5, 1735

The Farnham Parish register in Richmond County, Virginia, which I examined at Warsaw, gives several items on the Gower family as follows: "Born Kathrine daughter of Stanley and Sarah Gower, Sept. 24, 1720". "John Gower departed this life Jan. 7, 1726". "Susannah Gower departed this life Dec. 11, 1726". "Winnifred Gower departed this life May 20, 1727" "Francis Gower departed this lif April 16, 1729".

"Born Francis son of Francis and Rachel Gower Dec. 15, 1726" "Jane a negro girl belonging to Stanley Gower born Feby 11, 1726" "Hannah, a negro girl belonging to Stanley Gower, died Feby 7, 1729". "Rose a negro girl belonging to Stanley Gower, born Dec. 23, 1730" "Rose a negro woman belonging to Stanley Gower died July 29, 1731".

In Brunswick County, Virginia book 2 page 119, William Gower wife Anne to Henry Wilkins a lease dated Nov. 4, 1741. William Gower and wife Anne give their place of residence as Brunswick County while Henry Wilkins states he was of Prince George County. The conveyance was 200 acres of land in St.Andrew Parish in Brunswick County on Reedy Branch adjoining John Jackson's corner. The l ase was signed by both William and Ann Gower and was witnessed by George G. Mabrey and James Banks.

There is a deed on record in Brunswick County Book 5 page 527 where Willia Gower of Brunswick County and of St.Andrew Parish conveys to John Maclin of the same County, a tract of land . Anne Gower signs the deed with her husband. Said deed dated Feb. 26, 1754.

March 23, 1761 Abel Gower purchased from Russell Blackly 80 acres in Brunswick County on Meherrin Branch for which he paid six pounds current Virginia money (D.B. 6.p..640.).

The will of William Gower dated 29 Aug. 1775 proved April 27, 1778 Brunswick County (B. 5. p. 12) calls for wife Anne only. It does not mention children.

Abel Gower and wife deeded Richard Rains, October 25, 1762, a tract of 80 acres adjoining Isaac Adams line on Mehrrrin Branch in Brunswick County, Both parties of Brunswick County at the time. Obedience Gower relinquished her right. This deed shows as witness Henry Jackson, Wood Tucker and Russell Blackley (Dee. Book 7 page 187).

7. Thomas E. born July 3, 1868 died July 3, 1869
8. Lola Elise born May 22, 1870
9. Brooks born Nov. 61, 1872 died Nov. 16, 1872
10. Annie Mai born Aug. 31, 1874 died Sept. 1, 1874
11. Sadie Mai. born Nov. 26, 1875 died April 4 1876
12. Marie C. born Dec.10, 1877
13. Neil born 1878 died childhood
14. Thomas C. born March 18, 1880.

In Bedford County, Virginia, Stanley Gower's will (B.A.Page 431) names son Stanley, son John Craley Gower. Wife Ann. dated 24 May 1782.

In Davidson County, Tennessee, Abel Gower allowed a claim Feb.24, 1773 (N.C.State and Colonial Records Vol. 9 and 22. p. 379.

Russell Gower allowed land 600 acres in Davidson County free of expense by North Carolina. Abel Gower Senior and Abel Gower Junior were allowed the same. (Vol. 24. N.C.State and Col.Rec. p. 629-630).

Henrico County, Virginia 1679 April 25, Abel Gower in the House of Burgesses.

There were Gowers in Johnstonand Mecklenburg County North Carolina in 1790.

In Davidson County, Tennesse marriages Book 1. page 47. Thomas Russell married Engley Gower Nov. 13, 1789.

In Davidson County, Tennesse , Old District No. 25. Little Marrowbone Creek where Cheatham County line crosses the same follow to creek near Joe Russell then to Cumberland River then up river to Hyde's Woodyard at neck of White's Bend between Sulphur and Eaton's Creek on three forks of Marrowbone Creek lived, Elisha, William E., Gower and James Sr. William and Thomas Russell.

Gower's Chapel in Old 12th District of Davidson County on South bank of Cumberland River to Charlotte Pike to Richland Creek up to Hardin and Richland turnpike to Charlotte Pike to Cheatham County line to Joseph Russell to Pond Creek to Cumberland River. Hillsboro was made the voting precinct near the c enter, south of Bell's Bend is Gower's Chapel.

One Bel Gower received land grant in Gwinnett County, Georgia for Revolutionary services.

A.C.Gower married Rebecca Wilson June 11, 1851 and JohnD. Gower married L.S.Wilson October 17, 1850, Albert Patton married Tabitha Gower, Jan.22, 1848. All in Davidson County, Tennessee.

In the old City Cemetery in Nashville there is the tombstone of Martha J. Gower born April 21, 1837 died March 5, 1861 wife of Oliver Gower anddaughter of Robert Work.

The inventory of Elijah Gower deceased Oct.1795 by Prudence Gower administrator mentions among other things a "large bible" October 1795. (W.B.2. p.34 Davidson Co.Tenn).

William Gower was on the jury in Davidson County Tennesse April 19, 1813.

Overseers were ordered for the road leading from Moore's Gin branch to Gower's line be added to part of said road of which Peter Wright is overseer and that said Wright overseer same. July 20, 1813 (O.B. p.1088 book 1813. Dav.Co.)

Alexander Gower was on the jury July 22, 1813 (p.1093 Davidson County Tennessee Order Book 1813).

Gower's Chapel graveyard has tombstones. Rev. William Gower born Nov. 6, 1776 died Oct. 11, 1855. Charlotte Gower born July 1,1782, died April 16, 1860. Nancy L. Gower born March 19, 1805 died Oct. 7, 1885. Lorenzo D. Gower born Sept. 27, 1808 died July 11, 1802 (probably in 1892 or 1902 hard to read).

Sarah Peirce daughter of Col Wm.Peirce born in York County, Virginia 1632 will 1702 Westmoreland County, Virginia, married Stanley Gower of Richmond County,Virginia (Col. Fam. of Va. by McKenzie Vol. 7. p. 187).

A deed Dec. 1695 from Jane Gower for a tract of land given her by her father-in-law, Christopher Branch, of Kingsland conveys to John Cocke and Obedience his wife, who was Obedience Branch, daughter of John Branch, deceased, who was the son of Jane Gower" (Water's Genealogical Gleanings).

The descendants of Capt. Abel Gower father of Mary Gower, claim that he was of the Yorkshire Gowers now called Levenson-Gower, of which are the present Earl of Granville and the Duke of Sutherland; Lord Gower married the heiress of Lord Granville.

The Cockrill family history gives some interesting notes on the Gower family of Nashville, Tennessee.

The Rev. Jas. Woodward, a descendant has collected a very complete history of the Gower family of Middle Tennessee, this is unpublised except in phamphlet form. He is a descendant of William Gower, son of Abel Gower,Jr. and Obedience Blakely Gower.

Sir Robert Gower, M.P. who lives in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England, has a very excellent collection of Gower history in England. He is a member of the Society of Antiquaries and genealogical societies in England. He traces the Gower family in two charts to William the Conqueror on the feminine side and the other going as far back as 1500. Sir Robert Gower states that the line in America is undoubtedly a continuation of the Worchestershire line in England because of the given name Abel which so often appears in the American branches of the family.

Davidson County,Tennesee marriages.
Page 32. Elisha Gower to Prudence Coon. Dec. 22, 1790
Page 43. Wm.Gower to Charlotte Garland. Jan.15, 1802

page 55. Samuel Gower to Celia Koen. Jan.30, 1807

Page 55. Moss of Benjamin Moss to Nancy Gower Aug. 6, 1806

page 59. Elisha Gower to Jemima Patterson. May 5, 1810

Page 73. Allen George to Tenbe Russell.Nov. 21, 1803

Page 73. Alexander Gower to Eddy Evans. Sept. 23, 1803

Page 140. Wm.G.Gower to Patsey Gower. Feb.10, 1812

Page 86. Felix Robertson married Lydia Waters. Oct. 8, 1808

Page 135 Jno.Binningfield to Nancy Russe.. July 19, 1813

page 143. Wilson Gower to Charlotte Baird. Nov. 22, 1812

Page 152. Wm. Gower to Mary Crutchfield. Mar. 30, 1814.

Page 156. Churchwell Hooper to Nancy R ssell. Aug. 23, 1814.

Page 186. Thomas Smith to Patsy Gower. Sept. 4, 1817

Page 99. Jas. Russell to Elizabeth Dunn. Dec. 25, 1809

Page 210. Wm.Shelton to Jane Gower. July 20, 1819.

Page 233. Robert Gower to Agnes Burnley. Sept. 25, 1799

Page 322. Russell Gower to Nancy Boyte. Dec. 16, 1826

Page 362. Abel B.Gower to Alpha Davis. Jan. 30, 1829.

Page 14. James Reeves to Polly Gower. 1800. July 8

Page 14. Jno.Miller and Prudence Gower. March 20, 1797

NOTE: This only covers the early marriages there are many many after 1830 of the Gowers in this county, but only those in the first book have been copied in the file so far. Edythe Whitley.

Davidson County, Tennessee Will Books 1 and 2 (same volume bound together). page 34. Elisha Gower inventory , Admr. Prudence Gower 1795. October Court.

Book of Wills Davidson County, 2 and 3 (bound together). page 161. Inventory of Elisha Gower, Elisha Gower inventory returned to Court April term 1807 by Wm.Gower, admr. This takes care of property not taken care of by Prudence Gower. She was Prudence Miller.

Grant. No.263. From North Carolina May 20, 1790. Elisha, Elisha and William Gower located Nov. 2, 1784.

Mr. Woodwards notes on Gower include. Statement. Gower family from England. Abel Gower came to Virginia 1650. Worch stershire family. Died Henrico Co.Va.1686.

Abel Gower Sr of Tenn. was a son of an Abel Gower Senr of Va. No proof shown in notes of Mr. Woodward.

Abel Gower Sr. of Tenn. moved to Wake Co.N.C 1754
Abel Gower Sr. was a brother of Mary Gower wife of ____ Robertson. Mother and fathr of James Robertson.

Mary was a daughter of an Abel Gower. Her early home was in Brunswick County Va. but 1754 moved to Wake Co.N.C. and there to Tenn.
Joined Abel and Abel Gower Jr. came from Wakey County,N.C. His wife Obedience Blakely she the first buried in Gower cemetery 1816.

Abel Gower Sr. wife was Mary and had daughter Nancy who married Andrew Lucas.

Abel Gower Jr. issue
1. Russell killed 1780
2. Abel killed 1780
3. Elisha died 1795. married Prudence Miller
4. Elizabeth married Jas. Russell
5. William born Oct.26, 1776.

Abel Gower Jr. married in Wake County N.C. She a native of Wake Co.N.C.

Rev.Mr. Woodward's Notes continued. (Rev. Woodward I understand has been dead several years now) (This note 1960 by Whitley).

1776 Signers of "Articles of Association" by Watauga Association. Committe of 13 shows James Robertson.
Charles Robertson
Geo.Russell
Robert Lucas
Geo. Russell 1778. Washington Co. Tenn.

Ramsey's Annals of Tenn.page 107. Watauga Settlement. Page 120. George Russell granted land 1775 Watauga settlement. Pahe 138 signs
Page 181. Washington Co. Feb. 23, Geo Russell
page 189 in 1779 Legisltaure of North Carolina established Jonesboro as county seat of Washington County, Jno. Wood. Jesse Walton. Geo Russell. Jas. Stewart. and Benj Clarkwere appointed commissioners to lay out and direct its buildings
page 241. Geo Russell Capt. from Washington County,Tenn. Battle of King's Mountain under Co. Sevier.

Henry Williams married Susannah Gower, in Richmond Co.Va. Sept. 27, 1726.

Marriages of Knox County,Tenn. by Kate White, Tenn.Hist. Mag. Vol. 6, p.920
James Ruth to Rebecca Gower, July 6, 1799.

Brunswick County,Virginia will 1778. Dated 29 August 1775 he only calls for his wife Ann Gower and no one else. Proved April 27, 1778.

Richmond County, Virginia wills index. Dec. 8, 1725 John Gower to Francis Gower. (Will Book 5 page 20). Will of John Gower of Richmond Co. Va. Dec. 8, 1725. Wife Susannah. Son Francis. Daughters Ann, Winnifred and Elizabeth Gower Proved Oct. 5, 1726.

Davidson County Tenn. Book 2 of marriages. Joseph Russell married Tennessee Gower. Jan.9, 1838. issued Jan. 6, 1838. Page 20.

Hearst Sunday American , Atlanta, Georgia. 10-18-1931
Gower---- The Georgia Roster of the Revolution shows that Abel Gower received a land grant in Gwinnett County,Georgia, for services in the Revolution.

The line of Carr Henry of Washington D.C. 1933.
Francis Gower in Lancaster County,Virginia as early as 1653.Married Mary ______ their son Francis Gower of Old Rappahannock County,Va. married Anne Clarke, daughter of Henry and Joan Clarke of the same county. Their son John Gower of Richmond County,Va. married Esther daughter of Richard Greene and their daughter Anne Gower married William Thrift of Richmond County. Their daughter Esther Thrift, married John Rochester of Westmoreland County,Va. who had Esther Rochester, who married Reuben Plyes in Granville County,North Carolina; moved to South Carolina and their daughter Nancy Pyles born 1780 married George Barmore; she moved from South Carolina to Alabama and Arkansas. Their son William Barmore, of Pickens Co. Ala. married Elizabeth Tennessee Morriss. and had Mary Parthenia Barmore born 1838 married Jonathan Crews Bell who had Alice Ardena Bell born 1864 Pickens Co Ala. married Louis Neal Henry the parents of Louis Carr Henry.

Brunswick County, Virginia deeds. William Gower and wife to Henry Wilkins lease 1741 Book 2 page 119. November 4, 1741. William Gower & Ann his wife of the County of Brunswick to Henry Wilkins of Prince George County. William Gower and Anne his wife for five shillings sell to Henry Wilkins 200 acres in St.Andrews Parish in Brunswick Co. Va. oj Reedy Branch adjoining John Jackson's corner, signed by William Gower and Anne Gower and witnessdd by George G. Mabrey and James Banks.

Brunswick County,Va. William Gower to John Maclin. deed 1754 book 5 page 527 Feb.26, 1754 William Gower of Brunswick County and St. Andrews Parish to Jo n Maclin on same. land in Brunswick County. Anne Gower with her husband signs the deed. No witnesses.

Brunswick County,Va. Deeds 6 page 640. deed dated 1761. Abel Gower from Russell Blackley. 23 March 1761 Russell Blackley of the County of Brunswick to Abel Gower of said county. for 5 pounds current money of Va. Blackley sells to Gower a tract of land 80 acres in Brunswick County on Meherrin Branch.

Brunswick County.Va. Deeds 7 page 187. Deeds dated 1762. Abel Gower and wife to Richard Rains. October 25, 1762 Abel Gower of Brunswick Co. to Richard Rains of the same. for 19 pounds current money of Va. Gower sells Rains land in Brunswick County 80 acres adjoining Isaac Adamses line on Meherrin Branch. Obedience Gower relinquished her right. Witnessed by Henry Jackson. Wood Tucker. and Russell Blackley.

Rev. William Gower, born Nov. 6, 1776 died Oct.11, 1855.
Charlotte Gower born July 1,1782 died April 16, 1860
Nancy L.Gower born March 19, 1805 died Oct. 7, 1885
Lorenzo D. Gower born Sept. 27, 1808 died July 11, 1802
Buried Gower Graveyard at Gower Chapel and School house near River road leading to Cheatham Co. from Charlotte Pike.

Abel Gower Senior. a native of Brunswick County,Va. moved to Wake County N.C. 1750 and to Cumberland Settlement at Nashville 1779. Settled Gower's Island. His wife was Mary. He was Captain of the company to protect the Fort and was killed by the Indians while up the river for the purpose of gathering corn at Clover Bottom. His daughter Mary Gower was the mother of James Robertson who had before coming to the fort married John Randolph Robertson.

Abel Gower Jr. a soldier and patriot as well as a pioneer, received much note for his services in the Cumberland Settlement and founding of Nashville. He received grants from the State of North Carolina for his services. Lived and died in Davidson County where the name is still one always linked with the early history of the settlement.

→ Russell Gower son of Abel Gower Sr. was killed at the same time his father was killed. He received a number of land grants from the State of North Carolina for his patriotic activities with the Indians at the Cumberland Settlement.

Elisha Gower another son of Abel Gower Sr. granted land by North Carolina for his services in protecting the fort at Nashville. He settled about 1795 or 1796 on Bull Run in the edge of Cheatham and Davidson County.He was buried in Davidson County on Bull Run, on his grant. Until a few years ago his grave was marked with a stone but in recent years the stones have been removed and a garden planted thereon.

D.A.R. Tenn. State Report. 1930. page 180. Obedience Gower daughter of Capt. Abel Gower, buried in family garevayrd near Charlotte Pike, Davidson Co.Tenn.

Davidson County, Tenn. Minutes 1816-1819. page 461 Jan.31, 1818 Court. Thomas Hickman guardian to orphans of Alexander Gower.

Davidson County, Tenn marriages. James Russell and Elizabeth Gower daughter of Elisha Gower, of N.C.1796

Thomas Russell married Engley Gower, Nov. 13, 1789.

For the Russell- Gower line of descent see Russell family by Edythe Whitley, in Russell file.

From a leaflet by Rev. J.E. Woodward, published Nashville 1920, regarding descendants of the Gower family of Davidson County, Tenn, I have the following information; (no other information contained therein)

Abel Gower Senior, located at Gowers Fort which was probably about Gower's Island where Gower cemtery is located. Obedience Blakely married Abel Gower Junior. She died April 16, 1816. Buried on farm of her son William Gower.

Rev William Gower and brothers.

→ Abel Gower Jr. and Obedience Blakeley Gower had:
1. Russell
2. Abel (3)
3. Elisha became a minister in the Baptist Church (later)
4. William (Later)
5. Probably others.

Elisha Gower died near Cumberland River below Nashville, leaving a large family (no record given by Woodward in his sketch).

William Gower (Abel Jr, Abel Sr) born Wake County, North Carolina October 26, 1776, In early manhood came to Davidson County. He died near Nashville on the Cumberland River. In 1803 he lived on a farm where he was buried, that being the birth place of his oldest child. His wife was Peggy. He was licensed to preach Dec. 3, 1823. Married Charlotte Reeves born July 1, 1782 (niece of James Ribertson). She was called Peggy. They married 1803 he being 26 and his wife 20 years of age. Their issue:
1. Lorenzo Dow, born Sept. 27, 1803
2. Peggy born April 14, 1805 married Mr. Gatlin
3. Mark Robertson born April 3, 1806
4. Lavinia M. born Sept. 14, 1807
5. Abel Blakeley born Jan. 8, 1809
6. Nancy born Nov. 17, 1810
7. William T. born July 26, 1812
88 Charlotte Tennessee, born March 7, 1814 married Russell.
9. Lucy Ann born Aug. 8, 1815 married Shuster
10. Sallie born June 29, 1817. married Nawsom
11. James born Jan.16, 1821
12. Nancy Cynthia born Aug.9, 1823 married Wyatt
13. Leonidas born July 5, 1825
14. Andrey Jackson born ___ died Feb.26, 1829.

Rev William Gower, the father of the above family died suddenly Oct.11, 1851. Charlotte his wife died April 16, 1860.

Lorenzo Dow Gower (William, Abel, Abel) born 1823 married Nancy Lucas Gatlin born March 19, 1805. Mr.Gower died July 11, 1892 and his wife died Oct. 8, 1885. Their children were:

1. Felix Robertson born Aug. 17, 1824 married Mary Fields.
2. John Douglas, born October 20, 1825 married Elizabeth Wilson
3. Abel Lucas born June 27, 1827 unmarried
4. Mary Elizabeth born Nov. 24, 1828 married Henry P. Robertson
5. Sarah Caroline born June 28, 1830 died young
6. Delilah Garland born April 4, 1831 married William Woodward.
7. William A. born April 19, 1833 married Edna Grizzard
8. Amanda Tennessee born Dec. 1, 1834 married Benjamin Turbeville.

9. Nathan M. born Nov. 30, 1836 married Tennessee Willford
10. James Albert born Nov. 5, 1837 married Catherine Hows
11. Susan Jane born July 28, 1839 died young
12. Lorenzo Dow born Dec. 22, 1840 died young
13. Lorenzo Dow 11, born Oct. 5, 1842 married Mary Ragan
14. Nancy Jane born March 2, 1844 married W.R.Scott
15. Susan Lavinia born March 2, 1844 married John Bradford
16. Leonidas born ___ died young.

Charlotte Tennessee Gower (William Abel, Abel) married Joseph Russell and had:
1. Missouri
2. Mary Jane
3. Delilah
4. George

Lucy Ann Gower (William, Abel, Abel) born ___________
married March 1839 William Shuster, born May 15, 1811, She died Sept. 24, 1888 and he died May 25, 1867. They had:
1. William W. born Jan.15, 1840 unmarried
2. Marion Francis born Jan.9, 1842 married Mary Knowles
3. James Gower, born Jan. 30, ____ died unmarried, Killed at Battle of Franklin 1864.
4. Mary Elizabeth born Sept. 27, 1844 married R.H. Hutson
5. Charlotte Patience, born Jan.26, 1846 died unmarried.
6. George born Dec. 25, 1847 married Mary G. Harris.
7. Nancy Delilah, born Aug. 2, 1849 married Ed A. Johnson
8. Douglass born July 5, 1852 died unmarried.
9, Benjamin Franklin, born July 4, 1854 died unmarried
10. Louise Catherine born Aug. 2, 1856 died unmarried
11. Lucy Ann Tennessee born March 1859 died young.

Sally Gower (William, Abel Abel), married Dec. 30, 1834 William Newsom, born Appil 18, 1806. She died March 1, 1894. and he died Jan.14, 1874 They had:
1. Martha married Thomas F.Hutton
2. Elizabeth married Francis B.Hows
3. James P. married Virgie Frazier
4. John married Elizabeth Hows
5. Lee married Judith Dozier
6. Andrew J. Married Ellen K.Lovell.

Nancy Cynthia Gower (William, Abel, Abel) married John Wyatt and had issue:
1. Mary married Mr. Travis
2. Lizzie married Mr. Morgan
3. Wilkins married Annie Mitchell
4. Nannie married Stewart

Leonidas Gower (William, Abel, Abel) married Rebecca Webb. They had:
1. Lena married Peter Cartwright.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPING. NASHVILLE TENN NEWSPAPER SEPT. 21, 1937
INFORMAL PARTY. HONORS MEMBERS OF GOWER FAMILY

Mrs. L.R.Currey and Mrs. Lee Pope Jr. entertained recently at the fifth reunion of the Gower family at their home on Curry Road. A picnic luncheon was served on the lawn, and the invocation was given by Rev. H.M.Jarvis.

The next reunion will be hald September 1838, at the home of Mrs. R.F. Mingle and Mrs. O.Williams at their home on Park Avenue.

Those present were:

Miss Susie Yurbeville
Mrs.Elbert Woodward
Mrs. T.J. Still
Mr.and Mrs. R.F.Mingle
Mr. and Mrs. O.B. Williams.
Miss Louise Williams
Mr. James Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christenberry
Mr. and Mrs. James Currey Sr
George Hill Currey
Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Lovell.
Henry R.Scott
Mr.and Mrs. George Bugg
Mrs.Jennie Lou Whitaker
Mr. F.G.Bradford
Mr.J.A Gower
Mrs. Mattie T. Currey
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Green
Mr. and Mrs. Phares T. Diehl.
Miss Mamie E. Jones
Miss Nancy Pope
Mr. Lee Pope 111
Miss Nan Curry
Mr.Louis Currey Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lazenby
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cullom
Howard Cullom Jr.
Mrs. Minnie Longley
Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Woodward Sr
Mr.and Mrs. T.D. Gold
Mr. M.D. Currey
James G. Pettus
Mrs Duncan Currey.
Mrs. Susie Bass
Elbert Woodward Jr.
Miss Virginia Still
Mr. and Mrs. Harry V.L. Gower
Miss Elizabeth Williams
Mr.Buford Williams
Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Bolton
Mr and Mrs. E.F. Kenton
James Gower Currey
Mr. and Mrs. John Currey
Tommie Buford Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. L.H. Gower
Mrs. Ella McLaughlin
Dr. H.M. Jarvis
Miss Ida Gower
Miss Fannie Louis Currey
Mr.John C.Page
Martha Virginia Gower
Beverly Diehl.
Miss Mary Frances Pope
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pope Jr.
Mrs. L.R. Currey
Mr.Richard Currey
Rev.Pickens Johnson
Sara Marvine Lazenby
Jack Cullom
Mrs. Aggie Taggart
Mrs. Sallie Lazenby
Mr. and Mrs. H.P. Jacobs
Mr. Lee Head
Mrs. James A. Pettus
Duncan C. Pettus

Newspaper Clipping. Nashville Paper. October 3, 1934.
Gower Family Has Annual Reunion.

The second annual family reunion of the Gower family was held recently at the home of Miss Ida Gower and her brother Joe Gower, and his daughter Miss Kathryn Gower on Buffalo road.

Those present included the descendants of the Gower family who were settler in this part of the state at the time of the founding of Nashville in 1780. A barbecue dinner was served on the lawn.

A history of the Gower family compiled by the Rev. J.E. Woodward was distributed. Plans were made for a third reunion to be held the second Sunday in September, 1935 at the home of Mrs. Sallie T. Lazenby near Brentwood.

Those present were:

Miss Susie Turbeville
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christenberry
Miss Fannie Lewis Currey
Martha Green
Mrs. Lewis Currey
Richard and Nan Currey
Mr. and Mrs. James Currey
George Hill Currey
Mary Frances, Lee and Nancy Pope
Tom Cartwright
Mrs. Sallie Lazenby
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lazenby
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lazenby
Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Lovell.
Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Comstock.
Mr. and Mrs. Will Gower Jr.
Otis Meadors
Joe Gower
Misses Ida and Kathryn Gower
Virginia Still
Mr. and Mrs. O.R. Williams
Buford and James Williams
Mrs. Ella McLaughlin
Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Currey.
Mrs. Marvin Green
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Currey Jr.
James Gower Currey Jr.
Mrs. Lewis Pope
Mr. and Mrs. T.D. Gold
Alex, Melvin and Sam Lazenby
Mrs. T. J. Hobbs
Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Gower.
Mr. and Mrs. Will Gower
Frank Gower
Mrs. Margaret Still
Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Mingle
Misses Elizabeth and Louise Williams
Mrs. Susie Bass

Mrs. Henry Lou Whitaker. Fred Bradford, Mr. and Mrs. P.T. Diehl. Miss Beverly Diehl. Miss Katheen Jones. Mr. and Mrs. Ellmott Kenton. Henry V.L. Gower. Mr. and Mrs. S.G. Ewing. J.B. Hows. Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Woodward Mr. and Mrs. F.L. Woodward Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Woodward. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cullom. Howard Cullom Jr. Miss Annie Woodward.

The following are from newspaper clippings of deaths of persons named Gower from Nashville, Tennessee newspaper clippings which have been filed in the Whitley collection. All from either Nashville Banner or Nashville Tennessean. Where date is given in clipping it is given here. These are in brief -

Died Lorenzo D. Gower. July 2, 1942. age 75. West Nashville Grocer for 40 years. Member West Nashville Methodist Church. Buried Mt. Olivet cemetery. Born in Davidson County. Residence 4901 Alabama Ave., West Nashville. Survivors: wife Mrs. Davie Byers Gower; 3 daughters, Mrs. W.C.Boone, Mrs. L.M. Comstock. and Mrs. E.A. Holt, all of Nashville. 2 sons D.C Gower of Detroit. L.D.Gower Jr. of Nashville. 3 sisters Mrs. Minnie Longley , Mrs. E.A. Bugg, Mrs. H.P. Jacobs. One brother Felix S.Gower Sr. all of Nashville.

Joe A. Gower. Died December 30, 1941. Home Buffalo Road. age 66 years. Member Buffalo Methodist Church. Burial Gower family cemetery on Buffalo Road. Born 1875 lived all his life at the home on Buffalo Road. farmer. Married 1903 to Miss Lula Cotten of Buffalo Road area. Mrs. Gower died 1907. Survivors: One daughter Mrs. J.H. Bolton. Two grandchildren- Robert David and Eleanor Jo. Bolton and four sisters, Miss Ida Gower, Mrs.T.J. Still, Mrs. O.B. Williams, and Mrs. R.F.Mingle. all of Nashville.

Died, Miss Ida M.Gower date not shown.
Native of Newsom Station. Member Buffalo Methodist Church. Died at home of her sister Mrs.R.F.Mingle. 4502 Park Ave. Nashville. Survived by two sisters other than Mrs. Mible, Mrs. T.J.Still and Mrs. O. B. Williams.
Burial Gower family Cemetery. Buffalo Road. Oct.4, 1943

Feb.28,1946. Woman Takes Life In Home by Hanging.
Mrs. Dorothy Matthews Gower 60, was found dead in the basement of her home 1024 Mariwin Ave. . Widow of Owen Henry Gower. Burial Mt. Olivet. Member Vine Street Christian Church. She was born and educated at Glasgow Ky. Moved to Nashville age 18. Her husband a native of Bordeaux, died 16 years ago. They were married 1902. Surviving. Daughter. Mrs. Joe L. Cooksey. brothers J.W. Matthews. and Guy E. Matthews,both of Miami. Fla. and three nehpews and one niece.

May 26, 1945. Mrs. Elizabeth Gower, 62 died. Mrs. Elizabeth Williamson Gower. Member Church of Christ, Park Ave. Burial Mt.Olivet cemetery. Born at Nolensville Tenn. Resident of Nashville 50 years. Survived by 2 daughters Mrs. W.H. Hollingsworth and Miss Viola Gower. a son C.L.Gower Jr. a sister Mrs. W.C. Arnold. a brother Henry Williamson. all of Nashville and two grandsons.

March 12, 1946 Mrs.Blanche Farnum Gower. 74 , widow of Joe G.Gower. Burial Mt.Olivet Cemetery. Mrs.Gower born April 17, 1871 at Tullahoma, daughter of late Mr. and Mrs. George W. Farnum. Moved to Nashville age about 6 years. About 56 years ago married Mr. Gower, He died 35 years ago. Member West End Methodist Church. Survivors.... two sons. W.H. and Joe G.Gower. Three daughters Miss Mellie Mai Gower, Mrs. H.E.Frazer, all of Nashville and Mrs. Shelton Appleton of Albertsville, Ala. One sister Mrs. J W.Griffith Jr. of Nashville. etc. etc.

June 6, 1948 at 1084 Murfreesboro Road. Lemuel Herschel Gower, Sr. age 59 years. Grocer for 29 years. Burial Woodlawn Memorial Park. Nashville. Born in Nashville, Dec. 31, 1888 son of Ephraim E. and Jennie Groll Gower. Was assistant superintendent of the Tenn. Industrial School until 1919. In 1915 married Miss Marie Hudson of Lebanon Tenn. She survives. Survived in addition- daughter Miss Jennie Lou Gower, son Herschel Gower Jr. and Edwin Hudson Gower.all of Nashville.

August 18, 1930. Owen H.Gower called by death. age 49. Brother in law of J. W. Matthews of 1024 Fairwin Ave. Nashville. In poor health a number of years. Wife Dollie Matthews Gower. Daughter Margorie Gower, Sister Miss Jennie Gower, two brothers Edward Gower and Thomas C. Gower. (last of Chicago.Ill). Burial Mt.Olivert Cemetery.

April 15, 1944. Claude L.Gower Sr. age 65. Member Park Ave. Church of Christ. a painter. Native of Nashville. Member Park Ave. Church of Christ. Survivors. Widow. Mrs. Lizzie Gower. a son Claud Gower Jr., Two daughters Mrs. W.H. Hollandsworth and Miss Viola Gower, of Nashville. a half sister Mrs. Haskel Gowan of Shelbyville. Tenn. three half-brothers Herbert and John Gower of St.Louis Mo. and H.J.Gower of Nashville. etc.etc.

This concludes the material in the Gower file in the Whitley Genealogical Collectic I, Mrs. Edythe Whitley, 1604 South Observatory Drive Nashville, 12, Tenn. certify the above information taken from the file as stated. This May 9, 1960.

Mrs. Edythe Whitley
Genealogist-Historian
1604 South Observatory Drive
Nashville, 12, Tenn.

Gower's Island Takes a Rest

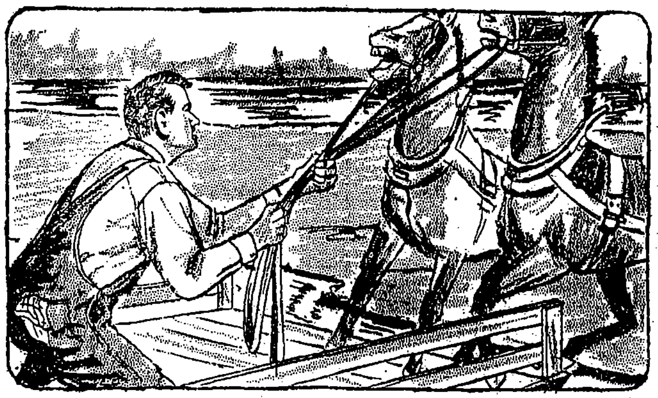
There's a sadness about the island that once grew the biggest corn and beans and pumpkins – and now is growing the biggest weeds. It may be the richest dirt in Davidson County.



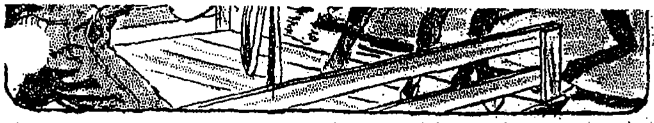
Sometimes the rising Cumberland lapped around the farmer's boots as he harvested the island's corn



One year, a flood threatened to sweep 50 hogs to destruction—they had to swim to safety



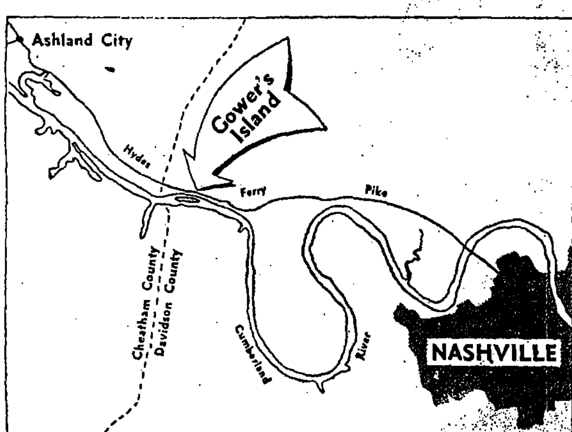
Not just any old team of mules would agree to step aboard the barge for a ride to the island



Not just any old team of mules would agree to step aboard the barge for a ride to the island

By Craig Guthrie

Photos by Gerald Holly
Drawings by Jim Young



Gower's Island is not far from the Davidson-Cheatham County line

THERE'S heavy underbrush on Gower's Island—a thick tangle which reaches over a man's head.

On the slough side of the island there stands a rust-covered tractor and corn picker, almost lost in the rampaging iron weeds.

The island, probably the richest single piece of farm land in Davidson County, has not been farmed in five years and hasn't been cleared in two.

It lies, a mile long from the tree-crowned head, tapering to the pointed foot, in the Cumberland River a quarter mile upstream from the Cheatham County line, about 50 feet off the north bank.

There's something sad about Gower's Island—where crops of more than 100 bushels of corn per acre (some ears 16 inches long) have been harvested without fertilizer, where pole beans grew 18 inches long and pumpkins were so thick it was hard to walk without stepping on one.

Two men have had heart attacks working its rich soil — one of them died.

When the river is up, the island floods; river tow boats have been stuck on it, and once the body of a man who drowned in a flood was found on it.

Now nobody seems to want it.

It's for sale, and has been for some time.

To farmers around the Scottsboro community, Gower's Island means corn — huge crops of corn that grew so thick and tall it was hard to harvest.

John Morgan White, "Papa" to almost everyone who knew him, was the last man to farm the island. He had a heart attack while planting his corn crop in 1961, and died.

The island was his prized possession. It was almost a love affair with him.

When he first saw it just off Ashland City Road near the Davidson-Cheatham County line, he decided he wanted it, and purchased it in 1945. He paid about $10,000. Now his eight heirs are asking $20,000, but—so far—there have been no takers.

The trouble with Gower's Island is that it's an island.

Back in 1780, when Able Gower Jr. and his family, relatives of James Robertson, settled the area around Nashville, there was no way to work the island.

Descendants of the pioneers say Gower's Island, like other islands, provided a sanctuary for the settlers when Indians attacked.

For many years, Papa White farmed the island with only a pair of mules. But not just any team would do. Mules didn't take to getting on the 30-foot-long wooden barge that White operated to get back and forth to the island.

New mules would buck and fight to keep off the shallow barge, says White's son, Denzil.

The frayed ends of the steel cable White had strung between a sycamore tree and the island to pull the barge back and forth are still there. The barge, which was tied up on Sulphur Creek a mile and a half upstream from the island after his death, was washed away a couple of years ago in a flash flood.

BEFORE Old Hickory Dam was built, flooding was always a problem.

When the fall rains came, spilling the Cumberland out of its banks and over the island, whatever was on the island was likely to wash down the river.

There have been times when corn was harvested as the rising river water lapped around the farmer's boots — and sometimes the water came up faster than the corn could be picked.

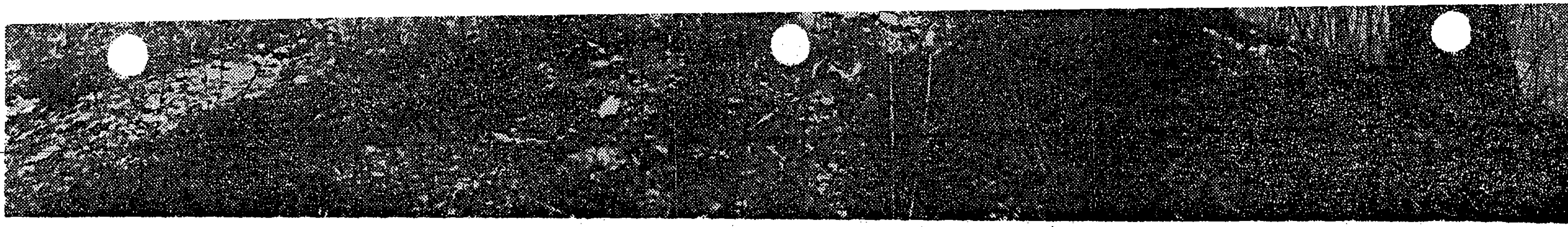
The swirling waters almost got 50 hogs in the



The sign on the Ashland City highway



Two tows of barges move past the long side of Cower's Island: The view is from the bluff above the highway



Two tows of barges move past the long side of Gower's Island: The view is from the bluff above the highway

fall of 1946.

After the corn had been harvested, White put the hogs on the island to feed out for market. The fast-rising water threatened to wash the pigs down the river.

White and another of his sons, in two john boats, herded the hogs through the rough water, Western style.

"One got down below the hogs and other circled them," Denzil White recalls. "Papa had a rifle and a butcher knife in his boat. He said if they started to drown he would shoot them, cut their throats and tie them to the side of the boat. But he didn't lose a one."

The frequent floods brought dividends as well as problems. With each flood came a two to six-inch layer of top soil from up river, deposited across the island.

Layer after layer of rich river silt has made the island extremely fertile.

"Papa was pretty much a corn and pumpkin man," Denzil says.

His father didn't worry about his crops — "He figured the Lord put that land there and He would take care of it," says Denzil.

White was a confirmed individualist—he did things his own way.

"He didn't go to church much but he would not work on Sunday," Denzil recalls. "He said he figured Sunday was a day for rest and that was what he was going to do. It didn't matter if the river was coming up, or what."

Once a man wanted to buy a small plot on the island and offered a very good price. Papa White insisted on knowing what the man wanted to do with a small lot on Gower's Island.

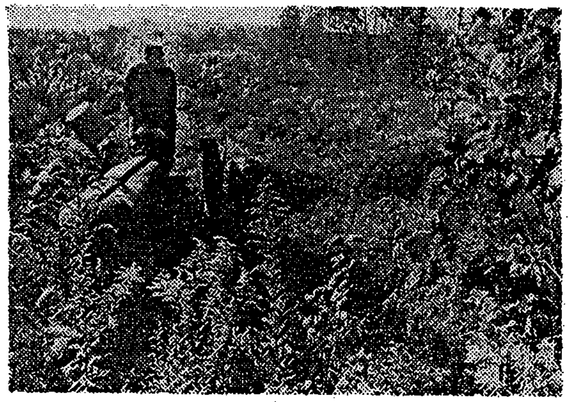
Finally the man admitted he wanted to open a g a m b l i n g establishment. White told him he wouldn't sell the land for a million dollars.

ON another occasion, during World War II, a man from Ashland City wanted to buy the whole corn crop. When White discovered he wanted to mill the corn into corn meal to sell through local stores, he turned him down flat.

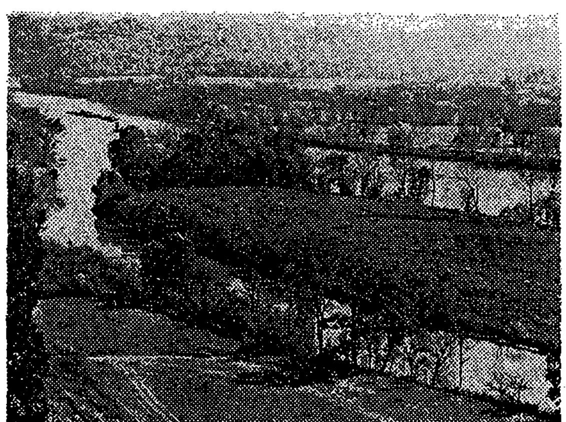
"He said he wasn't going to have someone making money off his neighbors with his corn," says Denzil. "He told the man he would give the corn away first."

Nashville grocers are said to have paid a nickel a dozen more for roasting ears from Gower's Island.

When White couldn't get the extra nickel he would bring the corn back and feed it to his mules.



Denzil White Jr. stands on the rusty old tractor hiding amid sycamores and weeds



The upper end of the island, with its cap of trees

"I've seen him bring many a load back," says Denzil. "He said he wasn't going to work for that corn and let them white collar so-and-so's do him that way."

Sam Denney, who owned the island before White, and his nephew Robert Denney farmed the land for many years.

Robert Denney, who will admit only to being "over 60," says the island is "right seasonable."

"If I was a man that could work," he says, "I'd want it.

"One thing about that piece of dirt," he says, "you'll never have to fence it."

Sam Denney suffered a heart attack working the island.

"I brought my uncle off that island over my shoulder," the younger Denney says. "I thought he was a dead man."

Denney found a cold, wet, unshaved, hungry escaped convict on the island in 1939.

"I called the sheriff when I came home to eat," he says. "They came and got him—I never did learn his name. I believe he broke out from Nashville."

That same year he discovered a dead man, buried in drift and river silt after a spring flood.

"I wish someone would farm that land, I'd like to see it produce," he says.

"It's shore a good piece of dirt. My uncle and I never did use no fertilizer and dry weather don't seem to bother it."

The trouble with flooding is not yet solved but when Percy Priest Dam on Stones River is finished, the Cumberland River may never completely cover the island again.

Gower's Island seems larger than its 40-odd acres when you look down at it from the top of the 200-foot-high bluff across the Ashland City Road.

From that distance the tractor and corn picker, all that remain of the island's productive years, look tiny. The wild growth of weeds and underbrush appears tame, almost as though it had been evenly mowed.

Like "Ol' Man River" of the song, Gower's Island "don't say nothin'."

It just keeps on getting richer, waiting for the next man's plow. ★ ★ ★

"GOWER"

On Dec. 24, 1779, James Robertson's Group arrived at a frozen Cumberland River just North of Nashville. I am assuming that Abel Gower Jr. and Russell Gower were in this group. And possibly Abel Sr. was with John Donelson's boats whic arrived April 24, 1780.

History tells us that Abel Gower Sr. and Abel Jr. were killed by Indians in th fall of 1780; however, sometime after they arrived, they signed the Petition t N.C. to give help to the settlements. They could all write their names for on the same page were the names of Moses and Caleb Winters. This copy of petitio on Microfilm at the State Archives. Mr. Quarles spent some time in North Caro in 1959 and located these original papers.

Russell Gower bought Lot 30 in Nashville when it was first platted and sold. typed copy enclosed states that Russell Gower had a son who was a Baptist Prea My conclusions are outlined.

If my conclusion is correct that Rev. W. L. Gower was the son of Russell Gower then we have an unbroken line to Abel Gower Sr.

→ James W. Gower married Milly (Amelia) Head on Nov. 12, 1841. I have been told that "Milly" was a sister to George, Hiram and Hugh Head. I have no supportin evidence.

George F. Gower, born 1848, married Lou Virginia Gray, and they were the paren of Miles, Burgess, and Joe Gower.

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Gowers Island, referred to, is in Cumberland River just at the Davidson and Cheatham County line. At one time this contained 20 acres, before the locks were put in the river.

Winters - Head - Murphey connections.

Caleb Winters was with the group that arrived December 24, 1779. He was then under age, but was listed among the 19 under age, in North Carolina Acts of 17 granting preemptive land rights.

Caleb was quite a hunter and moved out from the settlements and possible locat his father, Moses' farm. This 640 acres of land is in the forks of Caleb's Cre and Sulphur Fork Creek and is where the Washington Home, Wessyington, now is. This land has been held by Winters and Washingtons only. Moses and his wife a buried just N.W. of the home in unmarked graves.

FROM "METHODISM IN TENNESSEE" Written by Dr. J.B. McFerrin

And Published in 1869, Pages 380 - 381, we find the following —

"Before concluding this chapter, it is proper that reference be made to the Gower Family, who were early settlers in Tennessee, and connected themselves with the Methodists at an early period. Abel Gower came to Tennessee in 1778, with the family of General Robertson. He had a wife and five sons and four daughters. One son was shot and killed on the way; A daughter was wounded, but she recovered. Three of the brothers - Russell, Elisha, and William - professed religion and united with the Methodists in 1801. They all became preachers within one year after their conversion. Abel Gower and Elisha, his son, were murdered by the Indians a few years after they came to Tennessee. They were killed while bringing corn from the mouth of Stone's River to Nashville. Russell Gower settled on the Cumberland River, at what is called Gower's Island. He served the Church as a local preacher for thirty years. Elisha also settled on the Cumberland River, north side, at Gower's Island. He continued to labor as a local preacher for forty years. These brothers both brought up large families, all of whom became members of the Methodist Church. One of Russel's sons is now a Baptist preacher. William Gower settled on the south side of the Cumberland, not far from the island, and about nine miles from Nashville, in the year 1800. H e was born on the 6th of October 1776; twenty-four years afterward, he was married to Charlotte Reeves, niece of Mrs. General Robertson. Soon after he professed religion he began to exhort; indeed, he began forthwith to call sinners to repentance, and was immediately licensed. In a short space of time, as has been seen, he was licensed to preach, and continued for half a century to toil as a minister of Christ. He died on the 11th of October 1851. William Gower's house was a preaching-place for thirty years. There is now a Church on his land, known as Gower's Chapel. There has been a Church-organization for more than half a century in that neighborhood. Some of the descendants of this venerable man are pillars in the Church at this day."

GOWER FAMILY COMMENTS - By Ralph L. Winters,
315 Commerce St., Clarksville, Tenn.

Historians tell us that Abel Gower Sr. and Abel Gower Jr. were killed early near Nashville.

On April 29 , 1782, a petition was presented to the North Carolina Assembley asking for some relief to the early settlers. We do not know just when this was prepared or signed but the names of ABEL GOWER - RUSSELL GOWER and ABEL GOWER appear on the same page with MOSES WINTERS AND CALEB WINTERS. I think that this petition was started at Eatons Station as the first names appearing were - Amos Heaton - Isaac Lindsey - Lewis Crane - James Harris and others. These we know were stationed at Eatons Station. There was a Rev. Wilson Gower early in South Robertson County and that portion which later became Cheatham. Wilson Gower was a Free Will Baptist preacher and I think possibly was the son of Russell that Dr. McFerrin mentions.

→ Rev. James W. Gower was a son of Wilson Gower. He married Milly Head and they raised a large family in District 14 of Robertson County near Sandy Springs. This family of Gowers are the forbears of all the Gowers in that section. These Gowers were free will Baptists and Rev. James Gower preached early at Heads Church. Rev. George Head, gave the land for Heads Church when it was formed in 1841. We think that "Old Man" Caleb Winters - then about 80 - his son-in-law,

Actual records in history or responsible persons are quoted. "Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee", "Haywood's History of Tennessee", "McGee's " and other school histories, "Bishop Hess' Life of James Robertson", "McFerrin's History of Methodism in Tennessee" and family records, "The Gowers" by James E. Woodward.

James Robertson's mother, Mary Gower, was a sister to Abel Gower, Sr.. They moved in 1770 to Wautauga settlement.

* Abel Gower, Sr. married Mary (?)
Killed at Clover Bottom Massacre on Cumberland in 1780

1. Russel, Rev. (Methodist) m. Charlotte
2. Charles
3. Engley m. Thomas Russell Nov. 13, 1789
4. Obedience (Roll DAR records)
5. Elizabeth m. 1. James Russell
   2. David Gower (Killed--Pioneer Honor Roll)
6. Matthew Gower (Resided in North Carolina)
*7. Abel, Jr. m. Obedience Blakely. He was killed 1780 Clover Bottom Massacre. She died April 16, 1816.
8. David killed enroute to Nashville
9. Nancy m. Andrew Lucas

* Abel, Jr. m. Obedience Blakely
- (1) Alex m. Cherokee woman
- (2) David
- (3) Elijah m. Prudence Coon Dec. 20, 1796. He was born about 1774. He died October 1795.
- (4) Prudence m. John Miller
- (5) William F., Rev. m. Charlotte Reeves Jan. 15, 1802
- (6) Robert m. Anna Burmley Sept. 25, 1799
- (7) Polly Gower m. James Reeves

* (3) Elijah m. Prudence Coon
- A. William E.
- * B. Elisha m. 1. Jemima Patterson May 5, 1810
  - * 2. Sally Fowler January 12, 1818
  - (A) Gideon W. m. Mary L. South Jan. 21, 1850, Nashville, Tennessee
  - (B) Nancy m. James Perry
  - (C) Ann T. m. Lewis Perry Jan. 5, 1853
  - (D) George Washington T. m. 1. Patsy Harris March 3, 1849, Nashville, Tennessee
    2. Polly Harris March 15, 1856
  - (E) Porter m. Mary Simons July 31, 1855
  - (F) Elisha

(1) Sarah Cathcart (Sallie) m. John Henry Perry, Jan. 14, 1833

S224116

Capt Abel Gower
Massacred at
Clover Bottom
autumn 1780
Married Mary ?
9 Childern

Able Gower Jr.
Massacred at
Clover Bottom
Autumn 1780
Married.
Obedience Blakly.
9 childern

Elijah Gower
Married
Prudence Coon
B 1775
D 1795
2 Childern.

Elisha Gower

3 childern

Sally Gower
Married J
John Perry

Porter Gower
8 childern.

W.W.Perry
Married
Elesibeth
Waits.

William Bud	W.D.Perry
Arthur Douglas	A.D.Perry
m. Anna L. Williams	Gracie Perry
Walter Lawrence	W.L.Perry
Porter Edward	P.E.Perry
	H.P.Perry

Norvard Petty Perry / 584-5326
#108 1 Pa
[illegible]

*(I) Sarah Catherine (Sallie) m. John Henry Perry, Jan. 14, 1853
(born 1835, died July 1915) (died Jan. 1903)

(J) Lucretia m. 1. James Lenox
2. C.C. Peebles, March 29, 1949, Nashville, Tennessee

(K) Tabratha m. Albert Patton, Jan. 22, 1848, Nashville, Tennessee

* (I) Sarah Catherine Gower m. John H. Perry, Jan. 14, 1853

a. Elizabeth and George, twins, died in infancy
b. Mary m. Henry Holt
c. Martha Jane m. Alson Eastridge, she was born March 22, 1858, died March 19, 1936. He was born Feb. 9, 1854, died Oct. 1929.
d. Paul m. Josephine Eastridge
e. Wash m. Elizabeth Waits, he was born 1862, died 1927
** f. John Hiram m. Hannah Waits. He was born June 29, 1865, died April 24, 1946. She was born Sept. 18, 1870 and died March 12, 1938. They were married December 4, 1887.
g. Sara b. 1870, d. 1892, m. 1887 to George Felts
h. Josephine m. John Hiram Felts
i. Tennessee m. David Neal
j. James Henry m. Mattie Dillard

** (f. John m. Hannie E. Waits

(a) Ben Griggs, b. Jan. 24, 1889, died Jan. 11, 1950 m. Albertine Bracey, b. April 21, 1892 on December 24, 1913.
(a 11) Bracey Hooper b. Oct. 21, 1914 m. Edith Anderson, b. Dec. 21, 1912 on July 16, 1939.
(a 1-1) John b. Feb. 18, 1944
(b 1-2) Janice b. August 14, 1947

(b) Jesse Laurence Perry, b. Dec. 12, 1890 m. 1. Mamie Lucretia White b. July 27, 1892, d. June 22, 1951, m. August 10, 1913.
2. Mrs. Ellouise Ruffin Jakes b. January 14, 1904, m. August 2, 1952.
(b 1) Jesse Laurence Perry, Jr. b. Oct. 15, 1919 m. Susan White b. August 20, 1923, m. Nov. 5, 1949.
(b 1-1) Robert Laurence Perry b. October 23, 1951.
(b 1-2) Judith Foulds Perry b. June 5, 1953.

(c) Goldye Blanche b. March 9, 1893 m. Dec. 25, 1915 Lovic Pierce Hallums, b. Dec. 13, 1880, d. Dec. 2, 1942.
(c 1) Odell Perry b. Sept. 24, 1916 m. Leila Lucille Valdax, b. July 10, on August 11, 1944.
(c 11) Sue Catherine b. March 12, 1919 m. Ben G. King, b. Feb. 19 on May 19, 1940.
(c-11-1) Barbara Lynn King b. Nov. 21, 1941
(c-11-2) Richard Pierce King b. July 10, 1943
(c-11-3) Susan Leah King b. April 23, 1946

(d) Ive Belle, b. August 4, 1896, d. December 16, 1946 m. Grigsby Bracey, b. Jan. 31, 1896, d. July 4, 1959 on April 14, 1917.
(d 1) Mary Miller b. Feb. 27, 1918 m. 1. Herbert Starks on Feb. 15, 1941.
2. Ray Wilson on Feb. 15, 1947

1144

(d 11) E. G. Bracey b. April 2, 1919 m. Hazle Walker, May 29, 1941
(d 11-1) Barbara b. August 2, 1942
(d 11-2) Billy b. June 5, 1944
(d 11-3) Sandra b. September 29, 1947
(d 11-4) Karen b. August 1, 1949
(d 11-5) Kenneth b. March 20, 1951
(d 111) Carle e Bracey b. Sept. 19, 1920 m. David Harold Huber on Jan. 12, 1946
(d111-1) Cheryl Huber b. Oct. 30, 1946
(d111-2) Patricia Ann Huber b. March 8, 1948
(d111-3) Robert Huber b. Dec. 12, 1949
(d 1111) Jeanne b. Jan. 24, 1922 m Reece Thompson on Sept. 11, 1943
(d 1111-1) Gary b. Oct. 29, 1946
(d 1111-2) Linda b. Aug. 24, 1951
(d 11111) Muriel b. April 22, 1923 m. Dwight Lewis on October 29, 1945
(d 11111-1) Dwight Lewis, Jr. b. July 15, 1946
(d 11111-2) Donald Lewis b. Jan. 27, 1948
(d 11111-3) David Lewis b. July 15, 1952
(e) Robert Earl Perry b. August 5, 1898, m. Mattie Green on July 20, 1918
(e 1) John Cecil b. July 11, 1920 m. May Ruth Hale on July 31, 1949
(e 1-1) Joy b. July 3, 1956
(e 1-2) Karen b. November 4, 1958
(e 1-3) Sandra b. October 29, 1961
(e 11) Edna Earl b. July 14, 1926 m. James E. McGarrity on August 3, 1945
(e 11-1) Rita Dian b. August 4, 1947
(e 11-2) James Earl b. Dec. 23, 1948
(e 11-3) Sherri Renee b. June 1, 1962
(f) Gladys b. May 21, 1906, d. October 6, 1906

* Jesse Laurence Perry's direct line of ancestors to his great, great, great, great grandfather, Abel Gower, Sr., on his grandmother's side.

Jan. 4, 1963

Ralph L. Winters
Winters Family History Research
Clarksville, Tennessee

"GOWER"

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land has been held by Winters and Washingtons only. Moses and his wife are buried just N.W. of the home in unmarked graves.

Caleb Winters married Sarah Harris, and their oldest daughter, Sally, born 1788, married first William Elliott. He disappeared, and she later married Hiram Head.

Their daughter, Elizabeth, was the second wife of Robertson Murphey, Jr. (born 1828 known in later years as "Aunt Betty".

The first wife of Robertson Murphey was Rebecca Winters, daughter of Caleb Winters and his second wife, Mary Duncan. The first set of children of Rebecca and Robertsc were Curtis, Caleb, Zack, Minerva (Jeff Head), Alice (Isaac Winters).

The second group of children were Joe, Bob, and Hiram, Elias or "Pony".

H. E. Murphey was the father of Elsie Murphey.

Murphey

George W. Murphey, Sr. first bought land in Tennessee in the early 1800's. His so George, Jr., had a tavern at the crossing of Springfield, Sandy Springs and Coopert Turnersville roads. In later years this was known as the Old Ledbetter place. The an old cemetery nearly without lettered markers. We are told that George M., Sr. Jr. and families are buried here.

Robertson Murphey, Sr. married Mary Lawrence, daughter of Elias Lawrence. Th had a number of children, but Robertson Murphey, Jr. was born in 1827 or 1828, a his father had been killed by a Negro, with a rock.

Rhoda Murphey, an older sister of Robertson, Jr. was my Great Grandmother.

Facts.

Your remote Grandfather, Moses Winters was in the army of S.W. Va. in 1776-7 u Col. Wm. Christian.

When Red River Baptist Church was formed in 1791, the first people who were invi to join were Moses and Elizabeth Winters. They joined August 15, 1791.

Robertson Murphy, Sr. fought in the War of 1812. In 1823 he was adjutant of the M Company of Capt. Benjamin Elliott.

Elias Lawrence settled at the mouth of Brush Creek and in 1810 was appointed one commissioners to lay off the site for a mill (known to you as Hills Mill, south of A still operating with only water power after 152 years.

Ralph L. Winters
[illegible]
Clarksville, Tenn.

FROM "METHODISM IN TENNESSEE" WRITTEN BY DR. J.B. MCFERRIN AND PUBLISHED IN 1869, PAGES 380 - 381, WE FIND THE FOLLOWING --.

"BEFORE CONCLUDING THIS CHAPTER, IT IS PROPER THAT REFERENCE BE MADE TO THE GOWER FAMILY, WHO WERE EARLY SETTLERS IN TENNESSEE AND CONNECTED THEMSELVES WITH THE METHODISTS AT AN EARLY PERIOD. ABEL GOWER CAME TO TENNESSEE IN 1778, WITH THE FAMILY OF GENERAL ROBERTSON. HE HAD A WIFE AND FIVE SONS AND FOUR DAUGHTERS. ONE SON WAS SHOT AND KILLED ON THE WAY; A DAUGHTER WAS WOUNDED, BUT SHE RECOVERED. THREE OF THE BROTHERS - RUSSELL, ELISHA, AND WILLIAM - PROFESSED RELIGION AND UNITED WITH THE METHODISTS IN 1801. THEY ALL BECAME PREACHERS WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THEIR CONVERSION. ABEL GOWER AND ELISHA, HIS SON, WERE MURDERED BY THE INDIANS A FEW YEARS AFTER THEY CAME TO TENNESSEE. THEY WERE KILL[ED] WHILE BRINGING CORN FROM THE MOUTH OF STONE'S RIVER TO NASHVILLE. RUSSELL GOWER SETTLED ON THE CUMBERLAND RIVER, AT WHAT IS CALLED GOWER'S ISLAND. HE SERVED THE CHURCH AS A LOCAL PREACHER FOR THI[RTY] YEARS. ELISHA ALSO SETTLED ON THE CUMBERLAND RIVER, NORTH SIDE, AT GOWER'S ISLAND. HE CONTINUED TO LABOR AS A LOCAL PREACHER FO[R] FORTY YEARS. THESE BROTHERS BOTH BROUGHT UP LARGE FAMILIES, ALL OF WHOM BECAME MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH. ONE OF RUSSEL'S SONS IS NOW A BAPTIST PREACHER. WILLIAM GOWER SETTLED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE CUMBERLAND, NOT FAR FROM THE ISLAND, AND ABOUT NINE MILES FROM NASHVILLE, IN THE YEAR 1800. HE WAS BORN ON THE 6TH OF OCTOBER 1776; TWENTYFOUR YEARS AFTERWARD, HE WAS MARRIED TO CHARLOTTE REEVES, NIECE OF MRS. GENERAL ROBERTSON. SOON AFTE[R] HE PROFESSED RELIGION HE BEGAN TO EXHORT; INDEED, HE BEFAN FORTHWITH TO CALL SINNERS TO REPENTANCE, AND WAS IMMEDIATELY LICENSED. IN A SHORT SPACE OF TIME, AS HAS BEEN SEEN, HE WAS LICENSED TO PREACH, AND CONTINUED FOR HALF A CENTURY TO TOIL AS A MINISTER O[F] CHRIST. HE DIED ON THE 11TH OF OCTOBER 1851. WILLIAM GOWER'S HOUSE WAS A PREACHING-PLACE FOR THIRTY YEARS. THERE IS NOW A CHURCH ON [HI]S LAND, KNOWN AS GOWER'S CHAPEL. THERE HAS BEEN A CHURCH-ORGANIZATION FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY IN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD. SOME OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THIS VENERABLE MAN ARE PILL[ARS] IN THE CHURCH AT THIS DAY."

GOWER FAMILY COMMENTS - BY RALPH L. WINTERS,
315 COMMERCE ST., CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

Kasper Mansker: Cumberland Frontiersman

By Walter T. Durham

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About the year 1750 a male child was born to a young German couple while they were crossing the Atlantic Ocean on an immigrant ship bound for America. The infant was named Kasper Mansker. The perilous conditions attending his birth set a life style of danger and adventure that surrounded Kasper Mansker until his death from natural causes in 1820 at his home in Sumner County, Tennessee. Few of his contemporaries would lead a life more fraught with adventure and danger than he. And few of those who came to the Cumberland frontier in 1779 survived the hardships to see, as he did, the wilderness conquered and new routes opened westward into the rich lands of the Louisiana Purchase.

Little is known about Mansker's early years. General William Hall,[1] John Carr,[2] Major Thomas Hickman,[3] and others have written in general terms of Mansker's German parentage and his birth on board a vessel bound for this country from Europe. A. W. Putnam repeats the German ancestry report and emphasizes it by attempting to quote Mansker speaking English with a heavy German accent.[4] But in spite of all the published and manuscript recollections of Mansker, we are as yet unable to identify his parents or to locate their residence in this country with any certainty. General Hall wrote that Mansker lived with his parents "in Pennsylvania on the South Branch of the Potomac...until he was grown, and then...came out to West Virginia on the New River and joined the long hunters..."[5] But General Hall was obviously confused. The South Branch of the Potomac River is located in the state of West Virginia in the counties of Hardy and Hampshire and while New River flows through the state of West Virginia, the New River base for the long hunters was upstream in southwest Virginia. Perhaps he should have located the Mansker family in West Virginia instead of Pennsylvania and would have been more plausible. At this period it is certain that many German immigrants entered this country through the port of Philadelphia. It is also certain that there were at this time significant numbers of German immigrants locating in the long valley of the South Branch of the Potomac. But regardless of the Mansker family's uncertain location on the South Branch of the Potomac, it was not long before young Kasper was attracted to the unexplored western wilderness, probably by way of New River, Virginia. At about the same time, Kasper also became attracted to Miss Elizabeth White of Berkeley County, [now] West Virginia, and they were married, the date and place unknown.

According to information given twenty years after Mansker's death by Jenny, a mulatto woman who had formerly been a slave property of the Manskers, Elizabeth White's parents so opposed her proposed marriage that she and Kasper eloped and settled at the head of the Holston River. Jenny said

that it was from this place that Mansker began his long hunts into the western country.[6]

Kasper Mansker had at least one brother, George, who joined him in the Cumberland settlements sometime prior to 1783. George received a grant of 640 acres from North Carolina dated April 17, 1786, and located it on Station Camp Creek[7] We do not know whether George was older or younger than Kasper but from a reading of Kasper's will, it appears that George died first. Kasper Mansker's will provided for his wife, Elizabeth, and, in addition, provided specifically for grants to his nephews, William and George, and for his nephew George's children, Mary Miller, Lewis Mansker, and John Mansker. The nephews were identified in the will as "sons of brother George."[8]

The first account of Mansker's participation in a long hunt is reported by Judge Haywood. In June, 1769, Kasper Mansker was one of "a company of twenty men or more" who assembled with their pack horses on Reedy Creek to cross over into what is now Middle Tennessee on an extensive hunting trip. Among Mansker's fellow hunters were Abraham Bledsoe, John Rains, John Baker, Joseph Drake, Uriah Stone, Obediah Terril, Ned Cowen, and Henry Smith. During the second week in June, the hunters set off for the head of the Holston River which they then followed down to what is now Abingdon, Virginia. From Abingdon they went to the north fork of the Holston and from there crossed to Moccasin Gap on the Clinch River. They then came to Powell's Valley and Cumberland Gap, through which they passed and soon reached the Cumberland River. Before attempting to cross the river they traveled some six miles or so to Flat Lick from which point they followed tributary streams back to the river and crossed in what now the state of Kentucky at "a remarkable fish dam, which had been made in very ancient times." Near the fish dam they passed the place known as the Brush, its name derived from the intense undergrowth of briers and vines that laced trees and tree limbs together in an almost impenetrable wall of living plants.[9]

From the Brush, the hunters went in a southerly direction and soon reached the south fork of the Cumberland River which they followed down into the barrens of Kentucky to a place called Price's Meadow. Here their first base camp was made and they hunted and explored the surrounding country for the next eight or nine months. Some of the hunters returned to he settlements in 1770 but Mansker, along with Stone, Baker, Humphrey Hogan, Cash Brooks, Thomas Gordon, and four others unnamed, built two trapping canoes and two boats and loaded the makeshift craft and a third boat, that had been left by others, with furs and bear meat and pushed off down the Cumberland headed for Natchez where they planned to sell their cargo.[10]

When the fur-laden craft reached the present site of Nashville, the hunters saw at the French Lick the largest number of buffalo and wild game that they had ever seen at any one place. They stopped and killed a few of the animals from which they obtained hides to cover their open boats. Then they resumed their downstream journey and presently reached the mouth of the Cumberland River. With their meat beginning to spoil, it was decided to convert it into oil for the market. While they were thus engaged, an Indian chief called John Brown and twenty-five braves robbed them of two guns, some ammunition, salt, and tobacco. Passing French traders however, were more friendly, trading in exchange for fresh meat, salt, flour, tobacco, and some liquor, the first spirits they had tasted for several months.[11]

Mansker and his associates continued their travels by entering the Ohio River, following it to the Mississippi, and floating down the great river to Fort Natchez. Finding no sale for their cargo at the fort, the tiny flotilla proceeded farther downstream to Spanish Natchez. Here they sold the furs and oil that they brought from the middle Cumberland. Before they had disposed of all the goods, one of

the boats broke loose from its moorings and floated down the Mississippi. Mansker and Baker pursued it and finally overtook it at Fort Kaspel, from which place they were able to return it to Natchez and sell its cargo.[12]

After completing their business at Natchez, Mansker's party split up. Some returned homeward while others seem to have remained. Mansker was one of those who chose to stay behind, his decision apparently dictated by an illness which was upon him from May until November. After recovering his strength, Kasper and John Baker set out by boat upriver. At Ozinck, Mansker and Baker joined a party bound overland to Georgia with a herd of horses. From the north Georgia the long hunters turned northward and followed through the valleys of East Tennessee to New River, from whence they had departed a year and half earlier.[13]

In the fall of 1771, less than a year after his return from Natchez, Mansker set out again for the western wilderness, this time in company with Isaac Bledsoe, Joseph Drake, John Montgomery, Henry Suggs, James Knox and others. The group encamped on Russell's Creek in what is now Kentucky, built a house there in which to store the furs and pelts they took, and hunted in the surrounding country until February 1772. Discovering their supply of ammunition running low, Mansker and all of the party, except Isaac Bledsoe and four others who were left to protect the camp, returned to the settlements to replenish their supplies. While awaiting an improvement in the severe late winter weather to permit their return to camp, the long hunters found Isaac Bledsoe coming in to the settlements to bring David Linch, who had been stricken ill at camp. Bledsoe was then weather-bound with the others and two months passed before they plunged westward to their camp on Russell's Creek. Before reaching their destination, the hunters met one of the three men who had been left behind at the camp when Bledsoe and Linch came back to the settlements. He had escaped an Indian attack on the camp but reported that his two fellows had been captured by the Indians and taken away. On reaching Russell's Creek the long hunters found no trace of the two missing men. The camp had not been disturbed by the Indians and the stored "skins" were all intact.[14]

Mansker and the hunters did not resume camp here but pushed farther west, arriving finally in the middle Cumberland country, probably in late May, 1772. A station camp was established on a northern tributary of the Cumberland River at a point near Pilot Knob hill in Sumner County. The tributary stream has since been known as Station Camp Creek and along its fertile valleys ten years later were located some of the earliest North Carolina preemption land grants.[15]

The long hunters found an abundant supply of game within a convenient radius of their station camp. They had been in camp but a short time when Indians plundered it and destroyed, among other things, over 500 deerskins. But game was so plentiful that the hunters resumed camp and quickly restored most of their losses, breaking up only when their supply of ammunition was exhausted.[16]

The most important events of this hunting expedition, conducted in 1772, were the separate discoveries of three important salt licks. Approximately six miles northwest of the station camp, Kasper Mansker discovered two salt licks a short distance apart lying adjacent to a creek which, two miles to the south, emptied into the Cumberland River. The lick area and the creek were given Mansker's name and a spring on the west bank of the creek became the site of Mansker's fort, erected in 1780. John Carr recalled that Mansker said that "When he discovered the two licks which were only a few hundred yards apart, in passing from one to the other, he killed nineteen deer."[17] The sites of the two salt licks are within the present boundaries of the city of Goodlettsville in Davidson County.

Nearer the camp, Joseph Drake discovered Drake's Lick and nearby, Drake's Pond, a favorite watering place for deer. Sixteen miles east of the camp, Isaac Bledsoe, following the buffalo trail, came upon the sulphur springs and creek that were given the name Bledsoe's Lick and Bledsoe's Creek.[18]

Mansker and his company began the long journey home in August but, meeting another company of hunters in Kentucky, Mansker and four or five others joined the fresh party and returned to middle Cumberland where they hunted until the end of the season. Mansker then returned to New River.[19]

While in Kentucky, Mansker had a chance meeting with Daniel Boone, whom he had first met on the southwest Virginia border a few years earlier. The encounter came near the Big Barren River where Mansker thought he was hunting alone when he heard a strange sound ahead. Advancing cautiously, he found "a man bare-headed, stretched flat upon his back on a deerskin, singing at the top of his voice." The relaxed singer was Daniel Boone.[20]

Soon after Mansker returned from the hunts on Station Camp Creek, Colonel Arthur Campbell, a prominent border military leader and land speculator in Virginia, visited the Cumberland country. While no details of Campbell's visit have been discovered, he seems to have been in the Mansker's Lick area because upon his return to Fincastle County, Virginia, he registered with Colonel William Preston, the surveyor of that county, his claim to "1,000 acres at a place called Gaspar's Lick, being on a creek that empties into Cumberland below the barrens..."[21] Campbell's claim was invalid for a number of reasons and decade later Mansker entered a presumption claim to 640 acres that lay on both sides of Mansker's Creek upstream from the sulphur springs and was granted title by the state of North Carolina. The grant was dated April 17, 1786.[22]

According to North Carolina laws dealing with salt licks, the Mansker's Lick site of 640 acres was held for public use. When Davidson County became part of the Territory South of River Ohio, the tract on which the sulphur springs were located was given to the trustees of Davidson Academy. Some years later the tract and springs were sold to raise funds for the school.

About the time that Campbell was seeking to perfect his claim to one thousand acres at Mansker's Lick, Kasper Mansker removed from New River in Washington County, Virginia.[23] This time Mansker's move was only modestly westward. The big move to the Cumberland country was still seven years away.

A year later, in July, 1773, Mansker was at home in Virginia. The records of Fincastle County, newly created from a portion of Washington County, show that he served on a court jury in a civil case there and that in another case, this one styled Baker vs. Hogan, he appeared as a witness. On May 3, 1774, Mansker was the defendant in a civil action brought by Josiah Baker. On February 7, a suit was brought in court in Fincastle County by Mansker against Uriah Stone and Jacob Harmon, defendants, on a replevin bond. The defendants failed to appear and the court ruled in the plaintiff's favor, awarding Mansker the sum of eleven pounds, seventeen shillings, and four pence and assessing court costs to the defendants.[24]

Unable any longer to resist the call of the wilderness, Mansker in November, 1775, came again to Middle Tennessee, this time in company with Tom and Sam Bryan and others whose names are not

recorded.[25] The party made their base camp at Mansker's Lick.[26] Most of the hunters soon became dissatisfied and returned to the settlements, but Mansker and three companions remained to hunt and explore for some time. It was not long before the four hunters were hunting and trapping in the Red River country, a few miles northwest of Mansker's Lick, where they discovered evidence of the presence of Indian hunters in the area. Mansker was selected by his companions to seek out the Indians' camp and to determine their number. He soon found an Indian encampment among a stand of sycamore trees on the banks of Red River. In fact, he was within seventy or eighty yards of the camp when it first came into view. Haywood takes up the account:

> *He instantly place himself behind a tree, with design, if possible, to ascertain the number of Indians who were at it. He could see only two of them; the rest he supposed to be hunting at a distance. At the moment when he was about to retire, one of the two took up a tomahawk, crossed the river, and went upon the other side; the other picked up his gun, put in on his shoulder, and came directly toward the place where Mansker stood. Mansker lay close, hoping the advancing Indian would pass some other way; but he continued to advance in a straight line toward the spot where Mansker was, and at length came to within fifteen steps of him. Then being no alternative but to shoot him, Mansker cocked and presented his gun. Aiming at the most vital part of the body, he pulled the trigger, and the gun fired. The Indian screamed, threw down his gun and made for the camp, but he passed it, and pitched headlong down the bluff, dead, into the river. The other ran to the camp, but Mansker outran him, and getting there first, picked up an old gun, but could not fire it, and the Indian escaped.*[27]

The following day, Mansker and his party visited the site of the Indian camp where they found nearby the body of the slain Indian. The second Indian, who escaped Mansker, had apparently returned and removed all the camp supplies and equipment, including the Indians' horses and their collection of furs. It is said that Mansker and his associates pursued the escaped Indian all that day and all night, using in the darkness torches of dry cane to light their way. They were unsuccessful in their pursuit.[28]

A short while later, Mansker and company set out for the settlements but were detained enroute four weeks due to an unusually heavy snowfall, reported to have been "waist deep." After a thaw, the snow melted and the long hunters returned home without further incident.[29]

Both history and tradition are silent about Kasper Mansker in the years 1776, 1777 and 1778. There are no indications that he fought in the American Revolution. One is compelled to speculate that the relentless hunter spent at least some time during these years on long hunts in the Cumberland country that held such a fascination for him.

Mansker's elusive tracks are picked up again in the spring of 1779 when he, with others whom we do not know, came to Cumberland at French Lick, where Nashville now stands, and found Captain James Robertson's company making preparations to establish a settlement the following autumn. It is likely that Mansker knew of Robertson's plans for settling in middle Tennessee before he arrived at French Lick in 1779. It is not unlikely that the coincidental arrival of both parties was planned well in advance and that it was their purpose to make preliminary arrangements for their later return with settlers for the middle Cumberland.[30]

In the fall of 1779, Mansker in company with Amos Eaton, Daniel Frazier, and "a number of other immigrants" followed the Kentucky trail and arrived on the frozen middle Cumberland close on the

heels of the party guided by Captain James Robertson, probably in January, 1780. Mansker, assisted by William Neely, Daniel Frazier, James Franklin, and others, built a fort on the west side of Mansker's Creek, located three or four hundred yards downstream from the later site of Walton's Campground.[31] It was known as Mansker's Fort and was situated on or near land that he would soon claim under his presumption right as one of "the immortal seventy."[32]

In early 1780, Mansker signed the Cumberland Compact, an agreement providing for the first government in the new settlements. The compact set up the Cumberland Association, a local governing body comprised of representatives from the various forts. Mansker's Fort was one of those designated for representation.[33]

It was not long before the Indians discovered the Cumberland settlements and began sporadic raids upon the scattered forts and stations. One of the earliest attacks was made on Asher's Station, located three miles southeast of present Gallatin. One man was killed and another wounded and "the settlers became so frightened that they broke up and went to Mansker's Station." While Mansker's seemed secure enough for the moment, its stationers soon felt the wrath of Indian raiders. Frustrated in their efforts to make salt from the sulphur waters of Mansker's Lick, William Neely and some men from the fort set up camp at Neely's Lick and took Neely's sixteen year old daughter along to cook for the salt makers. On an occasion when the men left Neely and his daughter alone in camp, Indians attacked and killed the father and took the daughter into captivity. In the latter part of the summer, Indian raids were so "troublesome" to the inhabitants of Donelson's Fort at Clover Bottom on Stone's River that they abandoned the place and relocated at the French Lick and Mansker's. Colonel Donelson took his family to Mansker's. They were joined there by John Caffrey, John Hutchings, William Cartwright, and Hugh Rogan. But Mansker's was not immune to attack by the Indians. Five lost their lives there and Abel Gower, Sr., Abel Gower, Jr., William Cartwright, and John Robertson, son of Captain James Robertson, were killed when Indians attacked a party led by John Donelson, Jr., to harvest corn grown at Clover Bottom. Donelson, Hugh Rogan, and other members of the group escaped and made their way back to Mansker's Fort in safety. In the winter of 1780-81, the settlers at Mansker's determined to break up. Years later James McKain, one of the young guards at the fort, related that all who could get horses went to Kentucky and that the remaining settlers moved to either Eaton's or the Bluff. Among those who went to Kentucky were the Donelson family and the widow of William Neely and her surviving family who were escorted there by Hugh Rogan who promptly returned to the Bluff. Kasper Mansker and his wife moved first to the Bluff fort although they later spent some time at Eaton's. Soon after it was deserted, Mansker's Fort was burned by the Indians.[34]

In the short time before Mansker's Fort was abandoned, Kasper Mansker developed it sufficiently to provide food and lodging for guests, thus earning for himself the distinction of being the first innkeeper in the Cumberland settlements. In April, 1780, Daniel Smith and brothers Anthony and Isaac Bledsoe stayed a few days at Mansker's to settle accounts for the commissioners and guards of the Virginia-North Carolina survey party who had just completed an extension of the state line to the Tennessee River near the present location of Paris, Tennessee. Mansker charged General Smith thirty dollars for "diet" during the latter's brief stay at the fort, a fact of sufficient importance to the General that he entered it in his journal. A month earlier General Smith had recorded a two-day visit to Mansker's on March 12 and 13. He noted that they had been snow-bound on the thirteenth but made no mention of rates charged for board and lodging on this occasion.[35]

In the spring of 1781, Mansker was living at the Bluff fort when Indians attacked and dealt the pursuing defenders severe losses in an ambuscade. Seven men from the fort were killed and Mansker

was one of those reported to have been wounded by Indian gunfire.[36] This is the only known instance in Mansker's lifetime of his having been wounded by enemy fire.

In late 1782 and early 1783, Mansker built a second fort and located it on the east bank of Mansker's Creek, about a mile north of the first one.[37] Here, with the aid of his brother, George, Kasper also erected a mill. The Mansker brothers, James McKain, Isaac Bledsoe, and others moved into the east bank fort. Kasper lived there until the end of the Indian wars, spent the remainder of his life on the same tract, and at his death was buried there.

In 1783 the dormant government of the Cumberland Association was activated. One of its first acts was to call for the election of a constable at each fort. Young James McKain was elected at Mansker's. Officers at each fort were elected by the Court of Triers on March 15. At Mansker's, Isaac Bledsoe was made captain, Kasper Mansker, lieutenant, and James Linn, ensign. The importance of Mansker's fort was acknowledged by the Court of Triers as they ordered that "a road be opened from Nashborough to Mansker's station..." and that another road "be layed off from Eaton's station to Mansker's." Overseers were named for the projects and to "call together as many of the inhabitants of their respective stations as they can to assist in opening the aforesaid roads." The road to Mansker's from Nashborough drew further attention on the second day of the first meeting of the County Court of the new county of Davidson, October 7, 1783. It was "ordered that the road leading from Nashborough to Mansker's station, as laid off heretofore by an order of Committee, be cleared out." The Davidson County Court at the same session renominated James McKain as constable at Mansker's.[38]

In the spring of 1783, Kasper Mansker joined Commissioners Anthony Bledsoe and Isaac Shelby and their support party of one hundred guards as they surveyed the Commissioners' Line and layed off the military reservation land from which North Carolina had determined to redeem the worthless script that she had originally paid to her troops for service in the American Revolution. Although it is certain that Mansker had known Bledsoe since their days in southwest Virginia, and although it is probable that he had long known Isaac Shelby, the prospect of pleasant and friendly associations on the survey were likely outweighed in the mind of the pragmatic "Dutchman" by the attraction of earning "guard rights" or pay in land for his services during the outing.[39] As "one of the guards to the Commissioners" he received a grant of 320 acres located on the headwaters of the Red River.[40]

While it is not known the exact number of families that crowded into Mansker's new fort by mid-1783, there are indications that at least one man may have thought it was becoming overcrowded. Thomas Hamilton, who later built the ridge station or Hamilton's Fort at the headwaters of Drake's Creek, brought suit in the Court of Triers, July 1, 1783, in behalf of his daughter Elonar, in a plea of slander and defamation vs. Isaac Bledsoe and wife, James McKain and wife, and James Linn and wife. The court records note the suit was "dismissed by ye plaintiff."[41]

While Mansker seemed always ready for the exciting and dangerous events that burst upon the frontier in rapid succession, he also had time for such prosaic undertakings as defending his title to two horses, which had been delivered to him to keep on half stock for a term of five years. His defense was successful and the Court of Triers vested title in him, rendering against the plaintiff, John Thomas. On another day, Kasper was in court as a witness for Humphrey Hogan, his friend from long hunting days. On Mansker's testimony, Hogan was awarded a kettle which he had lent to an old man named Mayfield, shortly before Mayfield's death, and which was about to be disposed of as a part of his estate.[42]

On January 6, 1874, the Davidson County Court swore in its military officers. Fourth-ranking officer was 1st Captain, Kasper Mansker, outranked only by the Bledsoe Brothers, Anthony and Isaac, and by Samuel Barton. The responsible rank to which he was elected was an important indication of the high regard in which he was held by his neighbors on the frontier.

Mansker's station was visited in the summer of 1784 by a party of men from Halifax County, North Carolina, all Revolutionary War veterans seeking to locate their military land grants. The names of three of the men are preserved in the journal of one of them -- John Lipscomb. The other two were William Walton and James Cryer. While Lipscomb noted that they arrived at Mansker's on July 6, 1784, from Kentucky on the way to Nashville and they were again at Mansker's on August 6, 1784, enroute to Cumberland Gap, he made no comment nor observations about the place. Mansker's must have caught the fancy of William Walton, however, because he entered 640 acres adjoining Mansker's preemption grant and arrived with his family the following year. Lipscomb and Cryer located their claims elsewhere.[43]

In 1784, two older brothers of John Carr brought their families to Mansker's from southwest Virginia. The Carrs remained there and in 1785, brought John, their mother and her five other children from Kentucky to join them. John recalled that Parson Craighead came out to Mansker's and preached there at least once before the Carrs, in 1786; then moved out of the fort and located with some other families in Drake's Creek above Shackle Island.[44]

In 1784, Isaac Bledsoe went out from Mansker's and built a fort at Bledsoe's Lick to which place he removed his family the same year. Others went from Mansker's with Bledsoe, although it is not certain who they were.

But despite the departure of some of their neighbors, there was a growing number of families depending on Mansker's Fort for protection. The growth continued with yet another addition in year 1785 when a group of emigrants, including Captain William Bowen and his family, arrived from southwest Virginia. They, like many of those already sinking roots in the middle Cumberland, were veterans of years of partisan border warfare. Bowen built a long house on the banks of Mansker's Creek but, like the others, he hastened his family to Mansker's Fort when an Indian alarm was sounded.[45]

Soon after Bowen's arrival on Mansker's Creek, an alarm was given and the neighbors all gathered in Mansker's Fort. Bowen and some others who had come with him from Virginia drove their cattle and horses up to the fort to secure them from the Indian raiders. When the animals were about to be driven into the stockade, Mansker "hailed them and forbade it." There was a moment of awkward hesitation before Captain Bowen threw open the gate and drove the cattle inside. Mrs. Mansker is quoted as commenting strongly on Bowen's impudence. [46] [***Note:*** *The quotation I have is that she called Bowen "the impudentest man I ever seen". -- DM*] Kasper probably turned his attention elsewhere, annoyed at the flouting of his authority but proud of having an experienced Indian fighter like Captain Bowen in the neighborhood.[47]

In April, 1785, Mansker with his brother George, Edward Hogan, Isaac Bledsoe, Ephraim Peyton, and Captain Blackmore, were authorized by the Davidson County Quarterly Court to "clear out" a road from Dry Creek at Edenwold to Bledsoe's Lick. The project was the ambitious road building yet undertaken in Davidson County. The work probably consisted of widening and improving the

existing buffalo trail that connected the sulphur licks at Mansker's and Bledsoe's through the present site of Gallatin.[48]

General Daniel Smith and his wife were frequent boarders at Mansker's during the decade 1783-1793. By the end of those ten years, construction of Smith's handsome home "Rock Castle" was completed. At Mansker's, Smith and Captain Bowen compared notes on house building and worked together to procure skilled masons from Lexington, Kentucky, to erect the stone walls of Rock Castle and the brick walls of Bowen's house. It is said that Smith and Bowen purchased window glass for their houses in Lexington and brought it overland on pack-horses.[49]

When the North Carolina General Assembly in 1786 created the new county of Sumner by partitioning Davidson, Mansker's Creek became part of the boundary separating the two and Mansker's Fort, on the east bank of the creek, was thus located in Sumner.[50] The government and militia of the new county were organized in 1787 and Mansker was elected Second Major, third in rank, this time outranked only by the Bledsoe brothers. His brother, George Mansker, was elected one of the three lieutenants. Kasper served the same year as a member of the first grand jury impaneled in Sumner County.[51]

In 1786 the court records of Sumner County show that a man named Basil Fry was summoned by the grand jury "for living in an unlawful manner with Jane Mansker." Jane is thought to have been a sister of Kasper and George Mansker, although records are inconclusive on this point. A year later, Jane was acquitted of a charge of adultery but at the same time she was fined twenty-five shillings for having a "base born child."[52] On March 8, 1791, Jane Mansker and Basil Fry were married,[53] thus formalizing whatever their prior relationship might have been. Fry had come to the Cumberland settlements in 1787 as a soldier in Major Thomas Evans' battalion. For his services as one of Evans' border guards he received a land grant of 640 acres which he assigned to David Shelby, county court clerk of Sumner County, on March 26, 1795.[54]

During the year 1788, Kasper Mansker and Major Kirkpatrick recruited some one hundred guardsmen in Davidson and Sumner Counties and went to Southwest Point, near what is now Kingston, Tennessee, where they met and escorted at least twenty-two families, numbering approximately 140 persons, across the wilderness to Sumner County.[55] Mansker's guards may have been the party who brought Andrew Jackson to the Cumberland country. Jackson made the crossing in 1788 with an escort party whose plans had been advertised in the *State Gazette* of North Carolina, November 28, 1788, with a promise to repeat the service a year later.[56]

While this specific reference to Mansker's role in the practice of sending armed escorts to guard the immigrants in their cross to the Cumberland settlements is the only record of his service in this capacity, it is reasonable to believe that he made more than a single trip of this kind. The practice of sending guards to protect the Cumberland-bound settlers was continued until the end of the Indian wars eight years later. The Knoxville *Gazette* published in 1794 paid notices announcing the "annual escort through the wilderness" setting the rendezvous at Southwest Point in the month of October and pointing out that experienced armed guards would form the escorts.[57]

While Mansker was away from the county on guard escort duty in October, 1788, the Sumner Quarterly Court authorized several road clearing projects including a road from Mansker's Creek; another from George Mansker's house on Station Camp Creek to Drake's Creek; and another from

George's house to the east fork of Station Camp Creek. When Kasper returned he found that the court had also set the rates that could be charged by him and other operators of taverns and ordinaries. Lodging was pegged at six pence, dinner at three shillings, breakfast and supper at two shillings, and "whiskey such as will sink tallow" two shillings per half pint.[58]

The first indication that Kasper Mansker owned slaves is found in a bill of sale made in September, 1789, by which Hugh McGary, a famous Kentucky frontier soldier and Indian fighter, of Mercer County, Kentucky, sold a slave boy named Manuel to Mansker for 100 pounds Virginia currency. The instrument was witnessed by Kasper's neighbor, Andrew Jackson, and by Charles Hamman. [59]

In 1790, Mansker's Fort took in two new boarding guests: John Overton and Andrew Jackson, who moved from their private quarters on the widow Donelson's place. Both Overton and Jackson had become involved, although in different ways, in the family anxiety that had attended the estrangement and divorce of Rachel Donelson from her husband Lewis Robards. Jackson remained at Mansker's until his marriage to Rachel at Natchez in 1791.

Sumner County became a part of the Territory of the United States South of the River Ohio in 1790 when North Carolina ceded her western lands to the federal government. All local government officials and militia officers were commissioned by the Governor of the Territory, William Blount, who appointed Kasper Mansker Lieutenant Colonel and second in command of the Sumner militia.[60]

Prospects for peace on the Cumberland appeared bright early in 1791. In eastern Sumner County, however, Indian raids had claimed six lives in five separate attacks by mid-year. Colonel Mansker was in the area by early summer consulting with Colonel James Winchester, scouting and examining Indian trails leading eastward. On one outing he met five Indians coming toward the settlements from the Caney Fork River where they were believed to have been encamped. The Indians were surprised by Mansker and fled, "dropping their bundles in which he found six halters and a bridle."[61]

In August, 1791, Mansker was one of thirty civil and military officers of the Mero District who directed a petition to President George Washington imploring his aid against the "depredation...and murders..." committed by the Indians. The essence of the message was contained in a single sentence: "We implore your interposition, fully hoping to meet with a more ample protection than we have heretofore received from the state of North Carolina, the expectation of which was a powerful incentive inducing us to use our utmost influence to obtain the Act of Cession."[62] Mansker signed the petition in company with such Cumberland stalwarts as James Robertson, Daniel Smith, Judge McNairy, James Winchester, Edward Douglass, James McKain, and the twenty-three others.

Colonel Mansker was called to duty by General James Robertson in August, 1792, when the militia was raised to guard against an expected Indian attack from the south. Mansker, Colonel Elijah Robertson, Colonel James Winchester, and Captain John Rains were in command of five hundred men encamped two miles from Nashville. Spies sent as far south as Murfreesboro failed to discover the expected attackers and returned to report that there were no Indians in the area. The militia was dismissed and the members returned to their homes shortly before the Indian attack materialized on Sunday, September 30.[63] Mansker's Fort was not attacked and Mansker had no chance to assist in repulsing the attacks at Buchanan's Station and Fort Nashborough.

Around the lives of frontiersmen like Kasper Mansker, traditional stories of adventure have accumulated in great number. Once such tradition was repeated by the historian A. W. Putnam:

> *Old Mr. Mansker was once "gobbled up" by an Indian. Before he was in shooting distance, he was certain is was an Indian's simulation. He thought two could play at that game, but that his was the more dangerous part, being the "moving object." He had "eyes which could see and ears which could hear," he could see almost entirely around himself with his particularly keen eyes. He approached so cautiously that he designated the tree behind which was his adversary. The human gobbler was there, certain. Art was now to make him "uncover." So, keeping his left eye upon that tree, and the muzzle of "Nancy" in the same direction, he moved along... The distance was greater than an Indian would be likely to fire, but just right for "Nancy." And "she wished to speak to him." He was sure the Indian had seen him, therefore, he feigned to pass to the right. His device was successful. The Indian began to "slip slyly along" to another tree somewhat in advance of Mansker. Though moving slow and low, that left eye was on him through the bushes and wild grass. "Nancy" spoke to him, "bang!" The fellow fell upon his face with a "yah!" "I took his old gun, and there she is," pointing to the rack for guns...*[64]

In 1794, General Robertson, after careful consultations with the leadership of the Cumberland settlements, decided to attack the southern Indian towns at Nickajack on the Tennessee River near present Chattanooga. It was the belief of the Cumberlanders, shared by their friends the Chickasaws, that most of the Indian harassment came from a group of renegade Cherokees and Creeks who lived at Nickajack.

When the volunteers for the Nickajack expedition gathered at Nashville, Kasper Mansker was one of their number. However, when officers were elected by the troops, militia Colonel Mansker was not elected. The awkwardness of the moment was readily relieved by the veteran frontiersman when he observed to those standing nearby, "Well, I reckon if Colonel Mansker can't go, Kasper can. He can kill as many Indians as the Colonel can."[65]

And to Nickajack he went. There he came forward to build the boats on which ammunition and arms were floated across the Tennessee River before the attack on Nickajack. These he made by constructing a framework of saplings and light-weight poles and covering the whole with animal hides. The hide boats successfully ferried their cargoes of arms, powder, and flints to the other side of the river without water damage.[66]

The task of boat building was not enough to occupy Kasper but, happily for him, there was action enough for everybody. In recalling the fighting at Nickajack, William Pillow, years later, wrote: "Colonel Mansker took some men that night up the river opposite the town until some of the Indians that escaped from the town landed, and killed them in landing. I saw but one make his escape, he by diving was out of gunshot from our side and when Mansker's men fired on the daring Indian he turned down the river and went ashore between the mouth of a creek which Mansker's men could not cross without getting their guns wet." [67]

One of the biggest factors in the survival of the Cumberland settlements during the period of the Indian wars after 1781 was the friendship of the Chickasaw Indians and their Chieftain Piomingo. Kasper Mansker, ever practical, understood this. He gave proof of his understanding and gratitude in 1795 when he volunteered to go to the aid of the Chickasaws against their hostile Creek neighbors. On this expedition, Mansker was apparently recognized as the commanding officer, although the arrangements were both unofficial and informal. He went with most of the volunteers by water while

Captain David Smith went with fifteen or twenty overland to their destination: Logtown on the banks of the Mississippi River. On his arrival at Logtown Mansker assumed command of the volunteer Cumberland band of two companies and directed a strengthening of the defenses of the Chickasaws. Remembering the terror with which the Indian attackers of Buchanan's Station were seized when the small swivel cannon was fired, he had brought this same piece of ordnance to Logtown. It was set up to the great satisfaction of the Chickasaws and, finally, to the consternation of the Creeks. The Creek assault on Logtown came a few days after the Cumberland detachment arrived but it was beaten off. When the tiny cannon was fired, the Creeks went home to stay. Mansker and his volunteers returned to Nashville a short while later.[68]

Although the expedition to aid the Chickasaws was without official status, Congressmen Andrew Jackson wrote from Philadelphia in 1797 of his efforts to get pay for "Col. Mansker's expedition" to Logtown. Jackson's efforts -- and the efforts of those who succeeded him in Congress -- finally were successful in obtaining a payment of $2,000 for Captain David Smith, the supply contractor. The volunteer soldiers, including Mansker, were never paid. [69]

The end of the Indian wars on the Cumberland marked the end of an era for Mansker and for those who, like him, had come to stay in the new west. The Cumberland folk were for the first time free to direct their energies toward building a civilization in the wilderness.

For some years yet, Mansker's Fort would continue to be a prominent way station and inn for travelers. The French botanist Andre Michaux visited Mansker's in passing through the country in 1795. A year later Michaux's travels again brought him to the middle Cumberland and on February 25 he stopped at Mansker's to spend the night, enroute to North Carolina by way of the Kentucky trail. Michaux recorded his reception by Colonel Mansker which was something less than hospitable. "The 25th started to return to Carolina and slept 10 miles away at the house of Colonel Mansker, a declared enemy of the French because, he said, they have killed their king. Although I had not dined I would not accept his supper believing a Republican should not be under obligations to a fanatical partisan of Royalty. I was greatly mortified that the night and the rain should compel me to remain in his house. But I slept on my deerskin and paid for the maize he supplied me with to cross the wilderness."[70]

In October, 1797, the state legislature passed a second act trying to obtain the location of a county seat for Sumner County and named Kasper Mansker one of the eleven commissioners to select the site. They were instructed to pick a location between Mansker's Fort and Bledsoe's Lick at some point along a line running approximately parallel to the Cumberland River. The commissioners were unable to agree on a site and two years later, in 1799, were replaced by an act of the legislature. The third set of commissioners, five in number, also were unable to agree on a location. The fourth effort by the legislature in 1801 was successful.[71]

When the war of 1812 began, the name of Kasper Mansker, then sixty years of age, did not immediately appear on any of the many muster rolls compiled from long lists of West Tennessee Volunteers. On October 4, 1813, Kasper's nephew William Mansker and his great nephew John Mansker enlisted in the infantry company of Captain William McCall in Colonel John Wynn's regiment, Roberts' Brigade. Scarcely a year later with a showdown ahead on the Gulf Coast, Kasper Mansker and his great nephew Lewis Mansker enlisted in Captain William Martin's company of Colonel Thomas Williamson's Second Regiment of Tennessee Volunteer Mounted Gunmen. Martin's volunteers marched from Franklin to Fayetteville, Tennessee, where they were mustered into military service on September 28, 1814. From Fayetteville, the mounted gunmen traveled overland to join

General John Coffee's Brigade near New Orleans. With General Coffee, they fought in the Battle of New Orleans and remained in the city until sometime after March 1, 1815. Kasper and Lewis were discharged April 25, 1815. Both had enlisted as privates and Lewis had been advanced to the rank of corporal sometime before discharge. Did General Andrew Jackson know at the time that his old friend and former landlord was among the Tennessee Mounted Gunmen under Coffee at New Orleans? We don't know. If he knew, it must have been reassuring knowledge.

Kasper Mansker's temptation to go to the aid of his neighbor Andrew Jackson was made all the more irresistible by the presence of his old friend James Gwin as Chaplain for Coffee's Brigade and the presence of two other friends from Sumner County on Coffee's staff: Lieutenant James Lauderdale and Lieutenant Colonel George Elliott. Lauderdale was killed in action at New Orleans on December 23, 1814.

After returning from the Battle of New Orleans, Mansker lived quietly at his home in Sumner County. Nothing is known of his activities during this period. The U.S. Census of 1820 recorded the presence at home of Kasper and Elizabeth Mansker. On July 31 of the same year Mansker signed his last will and testament and by January, 1821, Kasper Mansker was dead. His body was buried in a private plot near his residence. His will was proved in the County Court at Gallatin in the following month.[72]

Mansker's will provided that his personal property, including certain slaves, be left to his wife Elizabeth. To her he also left lifetime rights to their home and a part of the tract on which it was located. To his nephews George and William, sons of his brother George, he left his land on the south side of Mansker's Creek and 110 acres on Loony's Fork. To Mary Miller, Lewis Mansker, and John Mansker, all children of his nephew George, he bequeathed the remainder of his estate. Executors of his estate were two friends of many years: Isaac Walton and George Smith.[73]

Four years after the death of her husband, the widow Elizabeth Mansker was married to Isaac Walton who lived on the adjoining farm and was himself a widower. Their marriage vows were exchanged on July 26, 1825. Elizabeth would live another sixteen years.

In September, 1825, Elizabeth Walton, formerly Elizabeth Mansker, executed her last will and testament. The document directed that all of her slaves should be emancipated. It was her desire that her neighbor, Charles L. Byrn, should take charge of the blacks and move them to Illinois, Indiana, or Ohio and set them free. She directed that all of personal and real property should be sold and the proceeds divided among the slaves. By codicil, she provided for certain slaves to take their regular riding horses with them to freedom. No family members were mentioned in her will. In fact, the only two white persons mentioned were Charles L. Byrn, who was to emancipate the slaves, and her husband, Isaac Walton, both of whom were made executors of the estate. A fee was provided for Byrn's services, but no provision was made for Isaac Walton. [74]

Albright's *Early History of Middle Tennessee*, published in 1909, contained a photograph of the Kasper Mansker residence, then the home of Mrs. Hattie Utley near Goodlettsville. There was also a photograph of the tiny burial plot containing the unmarked grave of Kasper Mansker.[75]

In 1956 the Men's Club of Goodlettsville, assisted by local funeral directors J. C. Garrett and his son, Johnny Garrett, disinterred Mansker's remains and removed them to Peay Memorial Park in Goodlettsville. A properly marked grave was proved and covered with a stack of flat limestone rocks,

fitted neatly together, and located beneath the protecting limbs of a large hackberry tree.

What about Kasper Mansker? What else can be said about this man whose life is almost a legend? Theodore Roosevelt regarded militia Colonel Mansker as typical of the officers of this period when they were actually leaders of their men. "Old Kasper Mansker, one of the most successful, may be taken as a type of the rest. He was ultimately made a Colonel and shared in many expeditions; but he always acted as his own scout, and never would let any of his men ride ahead or abreast of him, preferring to trust to his own eyes and ears and knowledge of forest warfare."[76]

John Carr said that, "though without education," Mansker was "a man of fine sense." Carr continued, "He was a great woodsman and a mighty hunter -- one of the best marksmen I ever saw shoulder a rifle. He was an excellent soldier; and no man among us understood better than he did how to fight the Indians; so that he rendered great service in driving the savages from the country... He was present, though advanced in years, at the taking of Nickajack. He never had any children. He possessed a handsome property, was fond of raising stock, and loved his gun as long as he was able to hunt. In his old age, he would attend shooting matches, and frequently took prizes when they shot for beef." [77]

Far from flamboyant, Kasper Mansker was a pioneer in developing American tradition. He came to the Cumberland country with his family and settled among other families. Here, like most of them, he staked out claims from which he would never be driven. As an explorer and Indian fighter he was always ready to face the dangers of nature or to confront a hostile enemy. As when he went to the aid of the Chickasaws, without the blessing of his government, he seemed always willing to accept the consequences of his own actions. And, at Nickajack and New Orleans he was willing to serve his country in the ranks as a private soldier when, because of his advanced years, he was not elected to be an officer.

Kasper Mansker was a remarkable "Dutchman" -- and a remarkable contributor to the building of the new American west.

Return to Mansker Chronicles Index Page

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st. No. 3 } 23
st. No. 724 }

June 1, 1880, will be OMITTED. Members of Families who have DIED SINCE June 1, 1880, will be INCLUDED.
Note C.—Questions Nos. 13, 14, 22 and 23 are not to be asked in respect to persons under 10 years of age.

441

1.—Inhabitants in Beat No 3, in the County of Yazoo, State of Mississippi, enumerated by me on the Eleventh day of June, 1880.

John W. Hunt, Enumerator.

The Name of each Person whose place of abode, on 1st day of June, 1880, was in this family. (3)	Color (4)	Sex (5)	Age (6)	If born within the Census year, give the month (7)	Relationship of each person to the head of this family (8)	Single (9)	Married (10)	Widowed, Divorced (11)	Married during Census year (12)	Profession, Occupation or Trade (13)	Months unemployed (14)	Sick or disabled (15)	Blind (16)	Deaf and Dumb (17)	Idiotic (18)	Insane (19)	Maimed, Crippled, Bedridden (20)	Attended school within the Census year (21)	Cannot read (22)	Cannot write (23)	Place of Birth of this person (24)	Place of Birth of the Father (25)	Place of Birth of the Mother (26)	
Cox Lizzie	B	F	21		Daughter														X	X	Miss	Miss	Miss	1
No 2 Clemun Albert	Mu	M	28				\			Field Laborer	✓								\	\	Miss	Ala	Ala	2
—— Illinois	Mu	F	20		Wife		\			Works in Field	✓								\	\	Miss	La	La	3
2 Russell Philip	B	M	45				\			Farm Laborer	✓								\	\	Ala	Va	Va	4
—— Minirva	B	F	40		Wife		\			Farm Laborer	✓								\	\	Ala	Va	Va	5
3 Cox Powell	Mu	M	40				\			Blacksmith	✓								\	\	Tenn	Tenn	Tenn	6
—— Sylvia	B	F	32		Wife		\			Farm Laborer	✓								\	\	Miss	Ga	Ga	7
—— Henry	B	M	16		Son					Farm Laborer	✓								\	\	Miss	Tenn	Miss	8
—— Edward	B	M	14		Son					Farm Laborer	✓								\	\	Miss	Tenn	Miss	9
—— Kate	B	F	12		Daughter					House Keeper									\	\	Miss	Tenn	Miss	10
—— James	B	M	10		Son														\	\	Miss	Tenn	Miss	11
—— Isaac	B	M	8		Son															X	Miss	Tenn	Miss	12
—— William	B	M	1		Son															X	Miss	Tenn	Miss	13
Gower Abel	W	M	38				\			Cotton Farmer	✓										Tenn	Tenn	Tenn	14
—— Lucinda	W	F	32		Wife		\			At Home											Miss	Miss	Miss	15
—— Bertha	W	F	2		Daughter														X	X	Miss	Tenn	Miss	16
—— Harriett	W	F	1		Daughter														X	X	Miss	Tenn	Miss	17
Meeks Thos	W	M	10		Step Daughter													\		\	Miss	Miss	Miss	18
—— Lulu	W	F	7		Step Daughter													\		X	Miss	Miss	Miss	19
—— Nancie	W	F	4		Step Daughter														X	X	Miss	Miss	Miss	20
Dagley William	W	M	47				\			Farmer	✓										Tenn	Pa	N.C.	21
—— Mary	W	F	40		Wife		\			At Home											Miss	N	N	22
—— Sallie	W	F	14		Daughter													\		\	Miss	Tenn	Miss	23

age is 33 →

[N]o. 42

Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, … merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

[SCHE]DULE 1.—Inhabitants in *District No 1*, in the County of *Mississippi*, enumerated by me on the *2* day of *July*, 1870.

[Post] Office: *Yazoo City Mississippi* — *R. W*

2	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family. (3)	Age at last birth-day. If under 1 year, give months in fractions, thus, 3/12. (4)	Sex.—Males (M.), Females (F.) (5)	Color.—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.) (6)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female. (7)	Value of Real Estate. (8)	Value of Personal Estate. (9)	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth. (10)	Father of foreign birth. (11)	Mother of foreign birth. (12)	If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.) (13)
	Grear Louis	1	M	B				Mississippi			
413	Grear Berry	30	M	B	Farm Laborer	/	175	"			
	" Nancy	40	F	B	" "	/		Virginia			
	" Parthenia	12	F	B	At Home			Mississippi			
	" Rozel	10	M	B	" "			"			
414	Underwood Jessie	75	M	B	Farm Laborer	/	600	Virginia			
	" Joe	50	M	B	" "	/		Virginia			
	" Joe	12	M	W	" "			"			
	" Wash	10	M	B	" "	/		"			
	" Winnie	7	F	B	At Home			"			
	" Rosanna	9	F	B	" "			"			
	" Fisher	2	M	B	" "			"			
	Woolfork Eliza	20	F	B	Farm Laborer	/		"			
417	Clay Henry	40	M	B	" "	/		Alabama			
	" Adaline	43	F	B	" "	/		"			
418	Taylor Manuel	40	M	B	" "	/	500	"			
	" Rose	22	F	B	" "	/		Mississippi			
	Manuel Jr	2	M	B	At Home			"			
	Caroline	4	F	B	" "			"			
	Julia	12	F	B	" "			"			
	" Nancy	3/12	F	B	" "			"			Nov
	Walton Joseph	13	M	B	Farm Laborer			"			
4[illegible]	McCorkel George	19	M	W	" "	/	500	"			
	Jackson Jim	13	M	B	" "			"			
	Smith James H	25	M	W	" "			New York			
	Gower A. B.	22	M	W	" "		120	Tennessee			
	Harris Dave	25	M	B	" "			Virginia			
420	Rapson A	33	M	W	" "	/	400	Canada	/	/	
	[illegible]		F		" "						

GOWER SPRINGS named for early family

In the vicinity of Green Street Circle, Gainesville, near the intersection of Thompson Bridge Road, the "Biscuit Barn," or "Triangle Shopping Center and the "Cake Box" are a few ruins of Gower Springs and the Gower Springs Hotel. The site of the hotel, as pointed out by an old timer, was located on the hillside in the curve of Green Street Circle. Residents now living in the vicinity may be partaking of peaches from trees which were part of an orchard planted by E. N. Gower for whom the springs and hotel were named.

An advertisement published in 1880 describes the landmark hotel:

"Valuable Property for Sale:

The Celebrated Gower Springs located just outside the city limits of Gainesville. The best chalybeate water in Georgia. Hundreds who have drunk of water can bear testimony as to its medical virtue. The hotel has 30 rooms; the house is all plastered and in good condition; built three years ago; fine mountain view; on the place is a carriage and black-smith shop, stables servant houses, etc. One hundred acres of land, about 10 in cultivation; a fine young peach orchard. The Gainesville street railroad runs to the Spring from the Air Line railroad. This is a chance for a good investment as this is one of the finest summer resorts in the country.

"If not sold the hotel is for rent to an early applicant. Terms made known on applicant to A.B.C. Dorsey and Co., Real Estate Agent, Gainesville, Ga."

Hotel Owner

The owner of the Gower Springs Hotel was Ebenezer Norton Gower, who was born in Sommerset County, Me. It is not known when he became a citizen of Hall County, but deed records date some land transactions in the 1850's. The hotel was erected in 1877, according to the advertisement.

Some further data about the resort founder is from his obituary dated: May 13, 1897. The statement is made that Gower did much to help shape the destiny of Gainesville.

"After Life's Battle Comes Rest. When death came to E.N. Gower Sr. last Thursday afternoon, one of the landmarks of the city was removed from our midst. Mr. Gower did more to shape the destiny of our city and contribute to its growth, possibly, than any other of his pioneer associates. Long before the war, (War Between the States) when Gainesville was only a little village, he engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, which found a ready market all over the state, and caused the place to become celebrated as a manufacturing point from its infancy. His success was stamped on the minds of others, and his actions suggested the rule of action which subsequently governed others; hence today a manufacturing city second to none in the South.

Analyzed Waters

"Later on he found that half our natural riches were still unknown to the outside world, and he therefore had some of our mineral waters analyzed and built the Gower Springs hotel and advertised it as a summer resort, 'where the purest and most exhilerating and mineral water most conducive to health, could be found.' The results of his efforts in this direction cannot be told. The hundreds upon hundreds of pale-faced, emanciated invalids who have come here and returned to their homes with rosy cheeks are the success which crowned his efforts.

"Mr. Gower was in his 83rd year when he was taken from the city he had helped to found and had watched with silent pride as it made its splendid strides in the channels he had paved in its early history. He leaves an aged wife, two sons and three daughters. One of his sons, T.C. Gower, is the well-known physician; the other, E.N. Gower Jr., followed the vocation

of his father and is now engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages in the firm of the 'Bagwell and Gower Manufacturing Company.'"

According to the family Bible, which was presented to Mrs. E. N. Gowers, Sr. by her brother, Charles G. Garrison:

Ebenezer Norton Gower was born April 21, 1814. He died May 6, 1897 and is interred in Alta Vista Cemetery, Gainesville, Ga.

"Eben" Gower was married January 12, 1837 to Miss Frances Hill Garrison

Frances Hill Garrison was born in Greenville District, South Carolina.

The marriage ceremony was performed in Golden Grove, Greenville District, S.C. by Dr. A. Spalding who later became pastor of the First Baptist Church, Gainesville, 1840s. Did Dr. Spalding perhaps inform the young couple of the advantages of coming to Hall County?

Children of E. N. and Frances Garrison Gower:

1.	James Charles Gower	born 25 October 1838 and died 22 September (War Between the States?) 1862
2.	Thomas Croswell Gower	born 6 June 1841 and died 4 October 1912, buried in Alta Vista Cemetery. He was a prominent Medical Doctor. He married Mary E. Simmons, daughter of Charles Rice Simmons and Lavina Bowen. Mary E. Simmons was born 27 April 1851 and died 2 April 1881. Children of T.C. and Mary E. Gower were: Charles, Thomas C., and E.N. Gower
3.	Florence M. Gower	born 10 May 1843
4.	Kathleen Gower	born 3 January 1845
5.	Frances Louise Gower	born 3 December 1850
6.	Susan Emily Gower	born 8 June 1853
7.	Carrie Maira Gower	born 17 October 1855
8.	Eben Norton Gower Jr.	born 6 June 1859

* * * * * * * * * * *

Obit from newspaper dated Oct. 9, 1912. Dr. T.C. Gower dies suddenly. A native of Greenville, S.C. . . . a successful physician. Survived by wife and five children: Dr. J. Chas. Gower, T. C. Gower, E. N. Gower, Will Gower, and Nellie Gower. One brother, E. N. Gower; sisters, Mrs. Hall, San Antonio, Texas; Mrs. Fair, Atlanta; Mrs. Baker, Ft. Smith, Ark.; Susan E. Gower, Gainesville.



Eleanor Hanrahan Worthington Gower about 1955.

us homemade soup. Papa lived by the ᵥ of the road and was a friend to man. He taught us to first believe in ourselves and ⁴ and treat your fellow man right. This was ı ıgacy he left us.

.pa married Fannie Bernice Barnes, Denber 25, 1900. She was born December 6, ıⁿ, and was the daughter of Richard and , a Barnes. She was the sister of Channie, ., Ella, Edith, Louisa, Richard, Wilson,)ert and John Barnes.

'apa and Mama stressed the importance of tion to each of us. They admonished us :k the profession that would bring us piness.

ı later years, the family enjoyed meeting on ıy afternoon at Mama and Papa's with all ındchildren. These afternoons of fellow- brought us closer together and we are still)se family.

a and Mama raised ten children. James ter Gorham (deceased), married Rober- ııth. To this union were born three chil- . Willie James married to Sarah Kemp, an (deceased), and Marion Virginia d to James Wilkes. They were blessed ʋne grandchild.

ıdie E. Gorham (deceased) was born June '3.

Ree Gorham (deceased) was born April ʋ05, married John Batts. To this union born two daughters. Mary Forist married ·rence Zollicoffer, and Johnie Ree mar- Frank Joyner. There are ten grandchil- ..ıd two great grandchildren.

via Monterio Gorham, born December '07, married Lawrence Hines. To this born four children. Annie Law- to James Gallopes, James Monte ıargret Ward, Charles Lavarra uvenia Days and Olivia Marie

'5, 1910, married John Larry Butler. To this union were born two sons. Larry A. married to Lacy Mitchell and George T. married to Odessa Jones. There are four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

George Tomer Gorham Jr., born November 8, 1912, married Lucille Williams. To this union were born three children. Lucille B. married to Charles Sayles, George Jutson (deceased), and Charles Monte. They are blessed with one grandchild.

Fannie Ruth Gorham (deceased), born August 13, 1915, married Rubin Clark. To this union a daughter was born. Estelle married to Frank Everson. There are three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Charlie Edward Gorham (deceased, was born December 4, 1917. Magnolia E. Gorham (deceased) was born June 26, 1920. Ernest D. Gorham (deceased) was born January 3, 1923.

Sources: Gorham Family Bible, The Family Tree, memories, interviews, and personal papers.

— Olivia G. Hines
and George T. Gorham Jr.

ELEANOR HANRAHAN WORTHINGTON GOWER

627-A

Eleanor Hanrahan Worthington Gower was the only child of Joseph Thomas Worthington and Mary Louise Mewborn Worthington. She was born Saturday morning, August 21, 1897. She was indulged as a child as she was the only child for the generation. Her father died when she was 13 years old and she and her mother continued to live in the old Hanrahan home with her father's sisters, Sue and Sarah Hanrahan. Mrs. Jack Rountree from Kinston often told of how she considered Eleanor a princess as she and her mother would come riding into Kinston by horse and buggy and put up at the hotel for several days to do their seasonal shopping. Also, they spent their summers at Seven Springs drinking the water that was supposed to help or cure all ills.

Eleanor attended school in the Grifton area. Among her closest and dearest friends were Glenn Brooks and her first cousin Louise Mewborn. After high school she attended Chatham Hall in Virginia for two years and returned to Grifton where she met and married Waldo Henry Gower on May 17, 1917. Even though Eleanor's mother approved of her choice of Waldo and his family background, she prevailed with her not to marry at that early age and if she would wait her mother promised her a trip to Europe, but regardless of all opposition Eleanor would not listen so they were married. Murle Harvey Nelson and Jean Harvey Williams of Grifton tell about the announcement party and wedding. There was an elaborate announcement party given at the Hanrahan plantation and Jean Harvey and Dorothy Gardner (then little girls) were to let the cat out of the bag. This caused great excitement at the party. For the wedding a number of worked at the J.R. Harvey Store. The wedding was planned to be at St. Johns Church but due to something concerning the war the plans were changed and they were married early one morning so that they could catch the train. After the wedding, someone flagged the train (that ran in front of their house), to stop for the bride and groom to get on and begin their honeymoon. Jean Williams was ringbearer for the wedding ceremony.

Eleanor and Waldo had three children, Thomas, Waldo Herman and Mary Eleanor. After the third child their marriage ended in divorce.

Early in life, with three children, the responsibility of managing large farming operations was thrust on Eleanor, and then came the depression. She managed to weather the depression and hold on to her property. After educating her children she retired and lived in Grifton until her death in 1980. To those who knew Eleanor as a young lady and through life, she was the epitome of a gentle, kind and gracious southern belle.

Sources: family Bible and personal knowledge of family and friends.

— Lynn D. Gower

FAMILY OF THOMAS WORTHINGTON GOWER

628

Thomas Worthington Gower was born in January 26, 1919 in Pitt County in old Hanrahan home where his mother, Eleanor Hanrahan Worthington Gower and his father, Waldo Henry Gower lived with his grandmother, Mary Louise Mewborn Worthington. In his early years his mother and father built a new home in Grifton and they moved to town. His brother, Waldo Herman Gower (Mar./14/21) and sister Mary Eleanor Gower (Aug./10/24) were born in the new home. The children grew up in the freedom of the small town. They all attended school in Grifton graduating from high school there. After high school Tom attended Randolph Macon Academy for post



contributed much to the growth of Grifton, ving built a number of houses for the ıPont people moving to Grifton. He headed a :creation Committee. He was a member of ɜ Sudan Temple and the local Masonic dge.

He served two terms as Mayor of Grifton ıen DuPont thrust it into a series of growing ins and during this time Grifton was voted : fastest growing and most prosperous town North Carolina. He befriended many people :his area and even though he was known for humor and the pranks that he pulled, such instigating the removal of tires from a car ɟ running it on the railroad tracks from Han- ɑan to Grifton, he was a lover of people and inspiration to those who knew him.

ource: family history and records.

— Lynn D. Gower

ALDO HERMAN GOWER, JR.

630

/aldo Herman Gower Jr. was Born Mar. 1921, Died Dec. 18, 1944.

on of Waldo Henry Gower and Eleanor Han- ın Worthington Gower, he was one of three dren, Thomas, Waldo and Mary Eleanor. do was born and raised in Grifton. After hing high school he took a position in <, Pennsylvania as a government inspector York Safe and Lock Company but later sted in the U.S. Navy during World War II served aboard the Destroyer Hull which t down December 18, 1944 with two other royers off Luzon in the Phillipine Islands ng a typhoon. He was listed missing in ɔn.

ıere is a monument built in Manila on the ıd of Luzon in the Phillipines in memory of \merican servicemen who lost their lives in Pacific area during World War II. Waldo nan Gower's name is listed on this monu- t. One of the commanders on the ship 'ived and was contacted by Waldo's ıer. The following is a letter received by ıarents describing the incident: "6 Febru- 1945

y dear Mr. & Mrs. Gower,

's with deepest sorrow that I, as Comman- Officer of the U.S.S. HULL, write to you erning the loss of your son, Waldo Her- Gower, who, following the capsizing and ng of that vessel on 18 December 1944, isted as missing at sea. I deeply regret to n you that a careful review of the circum- :es has led to the conclusion that there ɔe no hope that he survived.

e circumstances surrounding the disaster ıich his life was lost are as follows. The . was carrying out a war mission in com- with a large group of naval vessels, which uded the ill-fated SPENCE and AGHAN. There was little warning of the ɪs typhoon which struck us with great ıce. All precautions had been taken to e the ship for heavy weather and she took



Waldo Herman Gower Jr about 1942.

the wind which finally caused our capsizing was estimated to be about 110 knots, an unbeliev- ably high velocity. Every maneuver was tried to improve our situation, but it was of no use; the storm had the ship in its grip. The order to put on life jackets was given in plenty of time to allow the crew to be ready for the disaster which occurred shortly after when the wind laid the ship slowly over on hr side and the seas came flowing into the pilot house itself. There was ample time for the men to abandon ship, as she went down slowly. The moun- tainous seas pounded us with terrific violence. That any of us managed to come through it alive was a miracle, for I fully expected to be drowned within twenty minutes after I entered the water myself. It was quite impossible to see more than a few feet while in the water as the air was full of foam and spray, and we were spun over and over by the heavy waves.

Extensive and careful searches were made the following days by both surface vessels and aircraft for survivors of the disaster. Since there was no land within several hundred miles, it is quite impossible that anyone could have survived unless he was picked up.

Waldo was a great credit to his home and country. His manly bearing and devotion to the ship was a source of deep satisfaction to me. His battle station was on one of the after five- inch guns and although he was a relatively new man, his division officer, Lt. (jg) Wall, had complete confidence in him to perform his job in the highest traditions of the naval service. It is fitting for us to recognize that while he has gone on, his work has forwarded the cause of justice among men of this earth.

The knowledge that your son lost his life in the service of his country fighting a war against brutal and unprincipled enemies must be of some consolation to you in your great loss. Those of us who were fortunate enough to

sympathy in your sorrow and know that I shall glad to be of any possible assistance. Further inquiries will reach me if addressed to me in care of Bureau of Naval Personnel, Room 4625, Navy Department, Washington (25), D.C.

Source: U.S.N. Records, and Family Records.

— Mrs. Eleanor W. Gower

REVEREND DR. CLARENCE B. GRAY

631

The Reverend Dr. Clarence B. Gray, son of the late John and Estella Gray, was born in Simpson, North Carolina. His wife, Gwen- dolyn Crandol Gray was born in Pactolus, North Carolina and they are the parents of three children — Jacquette, Clarence Jr., and Hattie Estella.

Clarence has five brothers and two sisters living and two very dear aunts.

Education: Simpson Elementary School, G.R. Whitfield High School, Grimesland, NC, diplo- ma, BA and DD degrees from Shaw University, MA from North Carolina Central University in Durham.

Religion: Missionary Baptist Preacher with pastorates at the Davis Chapel and Triumph Baptist Churches, Moderator, Middle District Union of the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association, member of the Executive Board of the Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Associa- tion, member of General Baptist State Conven- tion of North Carolina, Inc., member, Eastern District Convention of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and mem- ber, Pitt County Black Pastors' Conference.

Fraternal and Social Organizations: Member, Graduate Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Bright Star Masonic Lodge No. 385, Anderson Odd Fellow Lodge No. 111976, LIfe member of NAACP, member of SCLC, and he is listed in PERSONALITIES OF THE SOUTH.



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The following letter from Prof. Brunner, strengthens the pioneer legends:

HIWASSEE COLLEGE, TENN., February 24, 1896.

Editor Historical Magazine:

Some people are slow to believe the statement that Tennessee pioneers sometimes lived in hollow trees. Such persons should remember that there were giant trees in those days. When I was a boy there stood in my father's meadow a hollow stump of a sycamore or buttonwood tree, that measured eleven feet in diameter, inside the shell.* Your Geometry will show you that this shell enclosed a space of ninety-five square feet—a space a little short of that afforded by the silken tent of Dr. Nansen and party in search for the North Pole. We can safely credit the statement that hunters often lived in hollow trees.

Very truly,

J. H. BRUNNER.

(Ex-President.)

GOWER GENEALOGY.—A QUERY.

Mary Gower, wife of John Robertson, of Brunswick County, Va., was mother of Gen. James Robertson.

Marriage bond, Davidson County, Tenn., Nov. 20, 1797, to John Miller and Prudence Gower.

Marriage bond, July 8, 1800, James Reeves and Polly Gower, signed by James Reaves and James Robertson.

Russell Gower was living in Davidson County in 1783; Wm. Gower in 1805.

Alex. K. Gower died 1815 leaving Ephraim, Tiba, Minerva, and David. His wife was Edith. Who can throw light on this genealogy?

GRANVILLE GOODLOE.

Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

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*I stood by and saw it measured.

offspring were:[149] Myrtle Aline Mayo, died young; Homer Ewing Mayo who married Ara Knight; Mattie Mae Mayo who married William Sterling Gamble; Alonzo Mayo, Junior who married Beatrice Cox; Horace Griffin Mayo who married Agnes Davis; Daisy Bell Mayo who married Albert Totty; Lawrence Madison Mayo who married Lillie Gennette; Leota Pearl Mayo who married John Rucker; Elizabeth Mayo who married Martin O'Brien; and Thomas Lee Mayo who married Lura Y. Hardison.

At Watkins' Grove the *Mayo Dairy* supplied milk for the entire neighborhood. Lon Mayo had a milk route all over West Nashville. He had a special milk wagon pulled by a horse and from which he rang a bell to signal his customers of his approach. The milk delivery was in service for many years after World War I. Lon's sister, Amanda Mayo Hudson, had a granddaughter, Hazel Stringfellow, who lived in West Nashville on Alabama Avenue. She loved to go visit Lon's daughter, Mattie Mae, who was about her same age, and spend the night. The great niece, now Mrs. Cecil Vance, would ride in the milk wagon along the route helping dispense butter from the wooden box to the neighbors. There was always a stop at the watering trough in Richland Park on the way home, and just beyond the Richland Creek bridge on the south side of the pike, Uncle Lon would always stop for feed. He would purchase a sack of wieners so that Hazel could have all she could eat for supper. Hazel and Mattie Mae helped with the washing the next day and would bring water from the spring. Once they fell off the bridge and got wet, but hung their clothes on the bushes to dry behind Watkins' Chapel. Of course, they both got a whipping when they arrived back at the house.[150]

In 1932 Lawrence Madison Mayo founded *Mayo's Sausage Company,* located in a log cabin at present 7120 Charlotte Road. The son of Lon Mayo, the dairyman, soon specialized in hickory smoked sausage and bacon, smoldered in a cloth bag. After nearly forty-five years in business, Lawrence Mayo in 1975 turned the business over to his son, Frank Mayo, who is the present owner. This family still resides in West Nashville and has been in business for generations. Attorney Jerry Mayo who practiced law in West Nashville for several years is also said to be a descendant of the Jacob D. Mayo family, as was the Charles Mayo family who lived at 4504 Utah Avenue in 1925.

Gower

In the Overall Creek neighborhood also lived the family of Reverend William Gower, born in 1776 in Wake County, North Carolina. Three Gower brothers—Russell, Elisha and William—the sons of Abel Gower, Junior and his wife, the former Obedience Blakely, were all preachers in the same general area near Gower's Island in the Cumberland River.[151] A North Carolina grant dated November 6, 1784 issued six hundred, forty acres of land to Elijah, Elisha and William Gower, assignees of Russell Gower and heirs of Abel Gower, Junior, on the south side of Cumberland River about four miles below the mouth of Overall Creek.

Under the preaching of Lorenzo Dow during a revival William Gower was converted. In 1823 he was licensed to preach in the Methodist Church and was certified by Bishop William McKendree.[152] Opposite his home on the side of a hill the Reverend Gower erected a log church which was known as *Gower's Chapel,* the forerunner of Centenary Methodist Church.[153] During the weekdays the building was used for a school taught by the same Reverend Gower, which was the beginnings of Gower School.[154]

On July 15, 1802[155] William Gower married Charlotte Garland, the daughter of Elisha and Lucy (Reeves) Garland. They became the parents of thirteen children: Lorenzo Dow Gower who married Nancy Gatlin; Peggy Gower who married John M. Gatlin; Mark Robertson Gower; Lavinia M. Gower; Abel Blakely Gower who married Orphie Davis; Nancy Gower;

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[149] *Mrs. Frances Johnson, River Road, telephone interview,* a Mayo descendant, on 10/6/1983.
[150] *Personal interview with Mrs. Cecil Vance,* 5/30/1983.
[151] John B. McFerrin, *Methodism in Tennessee,* Volume I, (Nashville: Publishing House of the Methodist-Episcopal Church, 1888).
[152] Reverend J. E. Woodward, *History of the Gower Family,* p. 9.
[153] Ilene J. Cornwell, *"The Gower Clan," Suburban News,* February 24, 1972, p. 13.
[154] Jean Henderson, "The History of Gower School," *Suburban News,* February 24, 1972, p. 19A.
[155] *Davidson County, Tennessee Marriage Book I,* p. 43.

William T. Gower who married Lucy Knight; Charlotte Tennessee Gower who married Joseph Russell; Lucy Ann Gower who married William Shuster; Sallie Gower who married William Newsom; James Gower; Nancy Cynthia Gower who married John Wyatt; and Leonadis Gower who married Rebecca Webb.

The Gower family was related to General James Robertson. The mother of General Robertson was Mary Gower Robertson, sister of Abel Gower, Senior. The elder patriarch of the family was from an English family of Gloucestershire. He first settled in Henrico County, Virginia but later moved to Brunswick County.[156] In 1679 one Abel Gower from Henrico County served in the House of Burgesses. He was married to Jane, the daughter of Edward Hatcher who was the Widow Branch. Possibly, this early Gower gentleman was the ancestor to the Davidson County family.[157]

Abel Gower, Senior and his son, also named Abel, came with Colonel John Donelson on the good ship *Adventure* and landed at the new Fort Nashborough in April, 1780. That same year in the autumn when a group of men were gathering corn and cotton for Colonel Donelson in the bottomlands along Stones River, some Indians ambushed the crowd and killed both Abel Gower and his son. Also murdered during the Cloverbottom Massacre was John Robertson, a brother of General James Robertson. The widow of Abel Gower, Junior, known as Obedience, went with her family to settle south of Gower's Island. When she died in 1816 she was buried under a certain pear tree. The area was enclosed with a stone fence and is now known as Gower's Cemetery.



Mr. and Mrs. Felix S. Gower, Senior

The family of Lorenzo Dow Gower remained in the Overall Creek area over the years. The oldest son of the Reverend William Gower, Lorenzo Dow was born in 1803 at the Gower homeplace. On August 8, 1823 he married Nancy Gatlin, the daughter of[158] Nathan and Obedience (Lucas) Gatlin. In the 1860 census Grandmother Obedience Gatlin was living with her daughter's family. There were sixteen children in the Lorenzo Gower family and they were as follows:[159] Felix Robertson Gower who married Mary Fields; John Douglas Gower who married Elizabeth Wilson; Abel Lucas Gower, single; Mary Elizabeth Gower who married Henry P. Robertson; Sarah Caroline Gower, died young; Delilah Garland Gower who married William Woodward; William A. Gower who married Edna Grizzard; Amanda Tennessee Gower who married Benjamin Turbeville; Nathan M. Gower who married Melissa Tennessee Williford; James Albert Gower who married Catherine Hows; Susan Jane Gower, died in childhood; Lorenzo Dow Gower, died in childhood; Lorenzo Dow Gower, II who married Mary Ragan; Nancy Jane Gower who married W. R. Scott; Susan Lavinia Gower who married John Bradford; and Leonadis Gower, died in infancy.

The Bishop R. K. Hargrove conducted the funeral of the ninety year old Lorenzo Gower in 1892, and he was buried in the community cemetery on the family farm near Centenary. The son of Lorenzo, named Nathan Gower, moved to West Nashville prior to 1895. Their home was located at 405 Forty-fifth Avenue, near Georgia Avenue.

Nathan Marion Gower married Melissa Tennessee Williford and became the parents of

156Samuel Cole Williams, *Tennessee During the Revolutionary War*, (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1974), p. 175.
157Lothrop Withington, "Virginia Gleanings in England," *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 17, No. 4, October, 1909, p. 400.
158*Davidson County, Tennessee Marriage Book I*, p. 272.
159Woodward, *Gower Family*, p. 10.

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160*Personal intervi*
Nashville, Tennessee
161*Middle Tennesse*
Miller through Grant
162A. T. Andreas,
(Robertson) Richards
163*Davidson County*
164*Davidson County*
165Clayton, *Davidso*
166*Davidson County*
167*Ibid*, p. 98.

nine children, as follows: William Gower who married Nannie Shadowens; Lorenzo Dow Gower who married Davie Byers; Lula Gower who married James Kennedy; Mary Elizabeth Gower who married Eugene Alonzo Bugg; Minnie Gower who married Allison D. Longley; Felix Gower who married Mary Smith; Eddie Lee Gower who married H. P. Jacobs; Nannie Gower, died young; and Eva Gower, died young.

The elder Gower died after the turn of the century and the Widow Tennie Gower lived for many years in West Nashville with her family around her. Her son, Lorenzo Dow Gower, was co-owner of the Lovell & Gower Company, the first staple grocery in the new town located as early as 1895 in Richland Hall. Another son who lived in West Nashville was Felix Stockell Gower whose home was located on Knox Avenue, now part of White Bridge Road. Felix worked as a clerk at his brother's store, Lovell & Gower Company, from about 1905 until 1920. He rode a bicycle to work each day.

Felix Stockell Gower, Senior married Mary Williams Smith, the daughter of Richard D. and Laura (Williams) Smith. The Smiths were from Lebanon but moved to West Nashville and made their home at 4210 Charlotte Avenue in 1910. The children of Felix and Mary Gower were as follows: Elizabeth Tennie Gower who married Ray W. Brandon; Felix S. Gower, Junior who married Jenny Elizabeth Hunt; Nathan Dennis Gower, unmarried; Finley Eugene Gower who married Mary Schreffler; Mary Elizabeth Gower who married John Garland; and Martha Frances Gower who married Charles O. Brandon.[160]

Robertson

Just before reaching the Harpeth Ridge on the Charlotte Turnpike, now Old Charlotte Road, on the north side of the thoroughfare was the Elijah Robertson Tavern and Stagecoach Stop. It was the only stand on the line between Nashville and Charlotte, Tennessee. In operation from about 1820 until 1858, the stage house was a prominent waystation between the distant towns.

The owners were Elijah and Nancy Robertson who lived on a portion of the old William Miller grant.[161] Elijah, the son of Charles and Susannah (Cunningham) Robertson,[162] and nephew of General James Robertson, married Nancy Richardson on August 3, 1812.[163] They bought a two-story, double log house at the base of the ridge from William Miller in 1820 where Charles Scott, probably his son-in-law, then lived.[164] The Robertson offspring were: William Robertson; John Robertson; James Robertson; Belle Robertson; Susannah Robertson; Martha Ann Robertson who married Abraham Stevens; Lucinda Robertson who married Greenberry Greer; and Emeline Robertson who married Charles Sims.

Around 1810 though Christopher Robertson, a brother of Elijah, kept a tavern at the top of the ridge. It was a general stopping place for travellers on their way west.[165] Later known as Nichols' Inn, it was owned by Charles Nichols and wife, the former Lydia Gallaher. They offered overnight accommodations at the half way point on the turnpike between the two towns for the stagecoaches. After the Civil War, the Widow Lydia Nichols and her sister, the Widow Sarah McClure, lived in the large, log house.

Christopher Robertson was married to Nancy DeMoss in October, 1807,[166] but presumably she died young. On April 28, 1809 he married Elizabeth Joslin, the daughter of Benjamin Joslin, as his second wife.[167] They became the parents of Benjamin Christopher Robertson,

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[160]*Personal interviews with Gower descendants:* Mrs. Elizabeth Brandon, Atlanta Georgia 9/1/1983; Doctor Eugene G. Bugg, Nashville, Tennessee 9/1/1983; Mrs. John Garland, Nashville, Tennessee.

[161]*Middle Tennessee Land Grant #24419* issued to F. P. Sullivan, mentioned the Elijah Robertson tract formerly owned by William Miller through Grant #12062, but conveyed to Robertson in 1820.

[162]A. T. Andreas, *History of State of Kansas*, (Chicago: published in 1883), p. 360, in which the son of Booker and Susannah (Robertson) Richardson named his grandmother as Susannah Cunningham.

[163]*Davidson County, Tennessee Marriage Book I*, p. 143.

[164]*Davidson County, Tennessee Deed Book O*, p. 155.

[165]Clayton, *Davidson County*, p. 75.

[166]*Davidson County, Tennessee Marriage Book I*, p. 113.

[167]*Ibid*, p. 98.

GOWER LINE

Chapter 1---

Abel Gower was a leading citizen of Henrico County and died there in 1689. Richard Gower, our ancestor and a close relative of Abel, most probably his brother, married about 1680 Martha Hatcher (See Hatcher Line Chapter 2). They had one child of whom we have record, Mary Gower who married our ancestor Richard Dennis.

With the marriage of Mary Gower to Richard Dennis our Gower Line is absorbed in and carried on in our Dennis Line (See Dennis Line Chapter 2 ·)

REFERENCES

Personal Abstract

Deed Edward Hatcher to Richard Gower 1686
Henrico Deeds and Wills 1677-1692 page 421

Will Abel Gower 1688
Henrico Deeds and Wills 1788-1697 page --

Deposition Martha Gower 1691
Henrico Deeds and Wills 1688-1691 page 286

Henrico Records
Dr.Stanard's Abstracts page 211

1. William Roy Goodman, born March 19, 1913; died September 23, 1967. Combat veteran of World War II (army service in the South Pacific). Married Ermine Edwards. One son, David.

2. James Harold Goodman, born May 30, 1915. Married (1) Mildred Turns, (2) Anne Stroud Harned, (3) Christine Ledbetter. One daughter, Mildred Ann Pollock.

3. Fred Goodman, born April 28, 1917. Retired U. S. Air Force Lt. Col. Married Kathryn Planzer. Son: John Dieter Goodman.

4. Mary Rebecca Goodman, born February 2, 1919. Married Millard Rawls. Children: (1) James Millard Rawls, U. S. Air Force (2) Joe Charles Rawls

5. Sally Catharine Goodman, born March 3, 1921. Unmarried. As a teacher in U.S.A.F. dependents schools she has lived abroad in Europe, Africa, and the Orient.

6. Georgia Belle Goodman, born August 26, 1923. Married John Emmitt Davidson. Children: (1) Eugene Erbert Davidson and (2) Pamela Marie Davidson.

3. George Edwin Goodman, born February 1, 1889, near Cedar Hill, Tennessee. Married Brenda Head June 26, 1918; she died July 22, 1919. He married Dora Nelson May 10, 1921. In August 1921 they sailed for Brazil where they served as missionaries for several years. Later they directed the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home. He was pastor of churches in Louisiana and Tennessee. Rev. and Mrs. Goodman now live in Maryville, Tennessee. Children of George Edwin and Dora (Nelson) Goodman:

1. George Goodman, Jr. Born July 6, 1922, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Served in U. S. Navy in World War II on the Duncan. Lost his life in the battle off Guadalcanal October 11/12, 1942.

2. Marion Edwards Goodman. Born October 15, 1924, Monroe, Louisiana. Served in U. S. Navy in World War II. Married Minnie Anne Tipton June 29, 1947. Children: Patricia Anne, Marion E., Jr. and George III.

3. Robert Lee Goodman. Born April 25, 1926, Monroe, Louisiana. Served in U. S. Navy in World War II. Married Anna Faye Webb June 28, 1947. Children: Robert Lee, Jr., Cheryl, and Dianne.

4. John Meredith Goodman, Jr., born April 22, 1895, near Adams, Tennessee. Veteran of World War I (combat duty in France). Tennessee State Commissioner of Agriculture under Governor Gordon Browning. Married Roaena Tindell September 1936. Children:

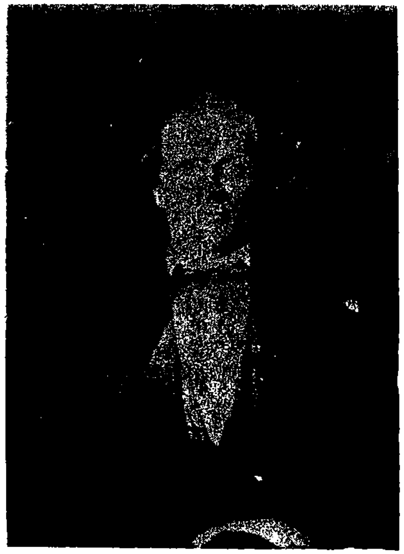
1. John Meredith Goodman III. Born July 17, 1939. Served in U. S. Air Force in Turkey. Now (1967) in agricultural college in California.

2. Sally Beatrice Goodman, born May 22, 1941. Graduate of Belmont College. Married William Tober III June 25, 1964. Their son, William Anton Tober IV, born Nov. 3, 1967. They are now (1967) living in Fort Worth, Texas, where Bill is a student at Southwestern Theological Seminary.

3. Joe Porter Goodman. Born March 17, 1943. Served with U. S. Army in Europe. Now (1967) a student at Austin Peay State College. Married Linda Sue Forrest May 25, 1968.

THE JOHN R. GOWER FAMILY OF PORT ROYAL

The Gower family possibly made the greatest sacrifice of any of the earliest settlers of Tennessee. Coming with the first groups, led by James Robertson overland and by John Donelson on the boats, they lost three of their men the first year.

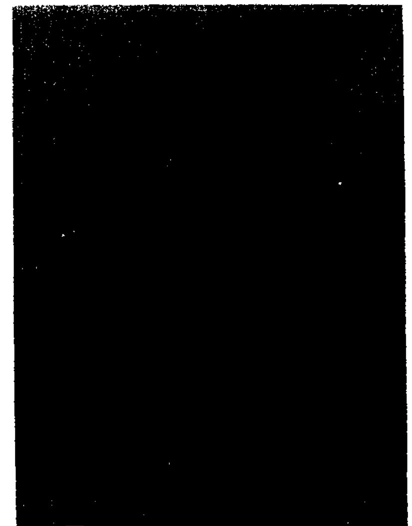


Rev. James W. Gower
1821



John R. & Martha Woodruff
Gower 1844 - 1925

SIX GENERATIONS OF GOWERS



James Gower



Stanley Gower



Leslie M. Gower



David Gower

13

The overland group reached the site of Nashville Dec. 24, 1779. The boats arrived Apr. 24, 1780.

Abel Gower with his wife, five sons and four daughters had started with this migration and one of the sons had been killed on the way. During the Summer of 1780 a petition was prepared asking North Carolina to give protection to this new settlement, which was 600 miles from the Capital. On the second page of the signers are found the names Abel Gower, Russell Gower, Abel Gower. We assume that this last Abel was Abel, Jr.

When the first harvest was ready and a group had gone to the mouth of Stones River to bring corn back to the forts at the settlement, the boat containing Abel Gower, Sr. and Abel, Jr. was fired on by the Indians and they both were killed. The surviving brothers, Russell, Elisha and William, later settled West of Nashville. Russell at Gowers Island in Cumberland River in Cheatham County just West of the Davidson Co. line. This island is plainly visible from the highway from Ashland City to Nashville. Elisha Gower settled North of the river on Sulphur Creek. William Gower settled on the South side of Cumberland near the island and about nine miles from Nashville in 1800. From Dr. McFerrins, "Early Methodist in Tenn." we learn that William Gower was born in 1776 and married Charlotte Reeves, a niece of Mrs. James Robertson, in 1800. Later a church was built on his farm and known as Gowers Chapel.

In 1801, under the powerful preaching of some good Methodist Circuit Rider, Russell, Elisha and William Gower were converted and joined the Methodist Church. Becoming local preachers, they served many years. Elisha for 40 years and William til his death in 1851. For 40 years the home of William Gower was a Meeting House.

"One of Russell's sons is now a Baptist Preacher." From a sketch by G. V. Frey, on the Gower Family and the Freewill Baptist Association and published in the Ashland City Times at an unknown date and which was supplied by Catherine Gower Willard in 1963, we quote, "Two of the most prominent Ministers of the Free Will Baptist Church in Middle Tenn. were Wilson L. Gower and son, James W. Gower."

"Wilson L. Gower was born in Davidson County, near Gowers Island, Nov. 19, 1793. His father, Russell Gower, emigrated from N. C. in 1779. He was an active Minister in the Free Will Baptist Church for fifty years. He organized the following churches, Heads, Charity, Mt. Zion, Good Springs, Bethlehem, Liberty and Rock Springs.

About 1838 there arose dissension in the Association about the Institution of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Whereupon Wilson L. was joined in the fight against Close Communion by Rev. Robt. Heaton. In 1841 they organized an Association known as Separate Baptists."

Wilson L. Gower married Charlotte Baird in Davidson County in 1812. Goodspeeds History states that he served in the War of 1812. We assume that the W. L. Gower who was Chairman of the first Cheatham County Court in 1856 was this same Rev. Wilson L. Gower.

James W. Gower, son of Wilson L. and Charlotte Baird Gower, was born in 1821. On Nov. 16, 1841 he married Amelia (Milly) Head in Robertson County, Tenn. From census records and family records and traditions we list their family:

1. Hugh Wilson Gower (1842-1924) m. Martha W. Murphey
2. John R. Gower (1844-1925) m. Martha Ruffin Woodruff (later)
3. James Carroll Gower (1841-1894) m. Anna Bell Frey
4. George Gower, b. 1848 m. Lou Gray



John R. Gower, Family group, near Port Royal about 1900

5. Louise Gower, b. 1852, m. William Elliott
6. Richard Gower, b 1854 m. Dolly White
7. Tennessee Gower, b. 1856 m. Neely Nichols
8. Addie Gower, (1858-1924) m. George Lawrence
9. Lucinda Frances Gower, b 1859 m Jas. Buckner Nichols (later) Jack Gower m. Martha White.

This family was raised on a farm on Millers Creek, near Sandy Springs, Robertson County, Tenn. This farm had been the home place of Caleb Winters and was sold to James W. Gower in 1855.

The above family, with their many descendents, were a definite contribution to this area and a whole book should be written about them. We will only deal with those who moved into the Port Royal area, John R. Gower and Lucinda Frances Gower.

John R. Gower was one of Port Royal's substantial citizens, b. 1844 near Sandy Springs, later lived in the Carmel Community of Montgomery County where he and George Winters operated a profitable tobacco packing business. Records show that at one time they bought from John R. Elliott 150 acres tobacco for 7 cents a pound. At the time Mr. Elliott lived on the Geo. Blount farm.

After retiring from the packing business Mr. Gower bought a farm in the Port Royal Community. Here in 1890, he with the help of Sam Wilkerson, built the house on his farm. His wife, Martha Woodruff Gower, working barefooted, passed the lumber up to the builders. This house dominates a hill on the North side of the river from Port Royal.

Mr. Gower was not only a successful tobacconist and farmer but was President of the Bank of Adams and a Director of the Northern Bank of Tennessee, Clarksville.

Continuing the Freewill Baptist tradition he was one of the founders of Olivet Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Jerry W. Cullom, after holding a meeting there in 1894, referred to it as "Gowers" Church. Mr. Gower was the only lay member of the Church that prayed in public so he was constantly called on to lead the prayers.

Mr. and Mrs. Gower both died in 1925 and were buried in the Trenton, Ky. Cemetery. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters, whose names follow:

1. James W. Gower a farmer of the Port Royal-Lockert Community married Ella Fortson. Their children:

A. Clara who m. George Smith of Adams, no children

B. Leslie Moore, who died fron influenza on board ship headed for France in W. W. I.

C. Ethel m. Jim Byrd of Adams (see Byrds) m. (2) J. W. Walker.

D. Dorothy m. Earl H. Williams, Clarksville

E. Stanley Gower, joined the Leaf-Chronicle Staff in 1924 as Cub reporter, has been Editor since 1932. He married Mary Maiden of Camden, Tenn. They have one son, Leslie M. Gower, named for his deceased uncle. He married Ronetta Davis of Clarksville. They have three children: David Glenn, Leslie Ann, Stephanie. Leslie is Director of Pan American College Library, Edinburg, Texas, and Ronetta teaches in McAllen Texas High School.

2. Mary Gower m. Herbert D. Elliott

A. Martha Elliott m. John B. Murphy (see Murphy)

B. Louise Elliott m. Robert Ransdell. 1. John Robert Ransdell, unmarried; 2. Carolyn Ransdell m. Ralph Edwards--Jimmy, Avis, Laurie, Barbara; 3. Barbara Ransdell m. Bryan Edgin--Glenn, David.

C. Mabel Elliott m. Tom Murff. 1. Irvin Murff m. Arvella Winters--David, Danny; 2. Joyce Murff, unmarried; 3. Mary Adeline

16

Murff m. Ralph Hogan--Gary, Eddie.
D. Gretchen Elliott, unmarried. E. Frank Elliott, unmarried.
3. Charles Matthew Gower m. Elizabeth Bassford. He was a practicing physician in Trenton, Ky. many years. Their daughter, Olivia Snadon Gower m. Thomas Mimms Maynard. Children: 1. Thomas Mimms Maynard, Jr. m. Ann Morris--Pamela Oliva m. Ken Joyner---Wendi Noel; Elizabeth Ann; Thomas Gower Maynard. 2. Elizabeth Belle Maynard m. (1) William F. Gasser, (2) William Sharr. One son, William Frank Gasser, Jr.
4. Amelia Elizabeth Gower m. Chas. Oscar Lockert who was the youngest son of David Lockert & Sarah Woodson. Their children: A. Russell Gower Lockert m. Betty Lewis--no children; B. Minor B. Lockert m. Vera Jacobs--no children; C. Vesta Lockert m. Charles E. Balee--Charles Balee, Jr., William L. Balee; D. Martha W. Lockert m. Forrest Gordon--William F. Gordon.
5. John Bennett Gower m. Gertrude Dickinson. Their children: A. John H. Gower m. Ann Anthony--Wayne; B. Roy W. Gower m. Dorothy Kimbrough--John Robert; C. Martha Gower m. Earl C. Hudson--Charles, Nancy, Jane, Helen, John.
6. Corrine Gower m. Ossian Glascock. Their children: James Gower Glasscock m.______________; Charles Henry Glasscock m.____________.

THE GRISARD FAMILY OF PORT ROYAL

Even tho no one bears this name in the area now, this family rendered a substantial contribution to the settling of the area.

Right after 1800 we find where Hardy Grisard bought 539 A. land from E. Lawson. This included most all of the town of Adams area.

The Red River Church records show that Hardy Grisard, Elizabeth Grisard, Joel Grisard and Sarah Grisard were members. On page 198 of these records shows "March 19, 1818--Sister Elizabeth Grisard died in 60th year of her age. She was baptised in Anson Co., N. C. 1802 joined this church Aug. 18, 1809 and "ever" supported it."

From research done by Albert Grisard of Washington we bring down the direct lines to present generation. Collateral lines are omitted.

1st Gen. Ambrose Grisard m. Sarah________________.
2nd Gen. Hardy Grisard (1754-1826) m. Elizabeth___________(1758-1818)
3rd Gen. Joel Grisard (1788-1830) m. Sarah Sugg (1794-1835). She was the daughter of Lemuel and Selah Horn Sugg, some of this generation buried in the Sugg Cemetery about 4 or 5 miles North East of Adams and on the North West side of Red River.
4th Gen. James Daring Grisard (1817-1866) possibly third son of the seven or 8 children of Joel Grisard. Married on Jan. 7, 1836 to Margaret Ann Atkins of Lincoln County Tenn. They had seven children of record.
5th Gen. Possibly their third child was Mary Frances Grisard (1842-1869) who married L. C. Atkins, son of James Atkins and Eliza Carr. Their only child was Ada Atkins who m. Secondas Farmer of Adams and they had three children, Reams D., Frances, Cecil. (See Farmers)
5th Gen. Possibly the sixth child of James Daring Grisard was Gustavus Henry Grisard (1849-1906) who married Tennie Lauerence in 1873.
6th Gen. The sixth of their nine children was Thomas Emmett Grisard (1884-) m. Ara Frech Dec. 22, 1912. Their children were:
7th Gen. A. Thomas Emmett Grisard, b 1914; died in Korea, 1951

George B. Goolsby m 6/21/1925 Mae Bell Hamilton, G. G. Robinson, Ord. (Book 12, p 36).
W. T. Goolsby m 4/15/1902 Gertie Knauf (Book 9, p 47).
Reserch and data contributed by Annie Mae Goldsby Kent and Don Shadburn.

THOMAS GORDON

By Margarette Goldsby Gaissert

Thomas Gordon (1758 Scotland-1826 Gwinnett) served as a private in South Carolina Line, received a land grant 1827 in Gwinnett. He married in 1776 Mary Buffington (1760-1837 Gwinnett). They had a large family, including:

Few Gordon (1797-1857) m 1820 Clarissa Warren Hardin b 1801, daughter of Henry Hardin III and the former Sarah Cook of Walton Co. Sarah's parents were Benjamin and Effy Cook of Elbert Co., GA and Johnson Co., NC. Few and Clarissa Gordon had four sons and two daughters.

Found in 1830 Census in Gwinnett:

Thomas Gordon Jr., age 50-60 and wife, age 40-50 with five sons and three daughters. Other heads of household 1830 in Gwinnett:

James Gordon.
Job Gordon.
John B. Gordon.

Found in 1850 Census in Gwinnett:

Alexander Gordon 34, farmer b 1816 GA with wife Susan Gordon 32, b GA and children:

Carlene Gordon, 9.
Josephine Gordon, 4.
George Gordon, 3 mos. (b GA).

James M. Gordon b 4/12/1821 GA with wife Elizabeth (Alexander) Gordon 27; their children:

Alice Gordon, 5.
Albert A. Gordon, 3 d 2/5/1865 CSA.
Thomas A. Gordon, 1 b GA.

Few Gordon, 53, farmer and wife Clarissa, 48, with children:

Sarah C. Gordon, 15.
Marcus L. Gordon and Alonzo Gordon, 11 (twins).
Georgiana Gordon, 10.
Missouri Gordon, 5.
Margaret L. Gordon, 2.
Mary B. Highson, 24 b GA, relationship unknown.

Dr. James M. Gordon (1821-1854), son of Few and Clarissa, was a graduate of Medical College in Augusta. He studied medicine under Dr. William J. Russell of Lawrenceville and became his partner before 1854 when he moved to Savannah and died there of yellow fever 9/18/1854. James M. Gordon was for four years a justice of Gwinnett Inferior Court. He m Elizabeth A. A[illegible]nder, daughter of Dr. Thomas W. Alexander. Their oldest son, Albert A. [illegible]ordon, was a Confederate soldier.

SOURCE

DAR paper of Mrs. Willie Theodore Gunn, b Gwinnett, whose husband Edgar Ross Woodson Gunn descended from Samuel Newton Martin (1830-1863) and Georgiana Gordon, b 1840 Gwinnett, daughter of Few and Clarissa Gordon.

ABEL GOWER

By W. Dewey Melton

The first of the Gower family to come to America arrived in Virginia from England in 1637. Virginia Land Grant Records (now in the Secretary of State's office in Richmond) show that the Gowers received land 8/18/1637.

Abel Gower b 10/17/1757 Brunswick Co., VA moved to Johnson Co., NC

before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. According to his Revolutionary War papers of 10/5/1832, he swore an oath that he entered the service in Johnson Co. in 1779, fought in the battle of Rockford Bridge, NC and was discharged in 1781.

Abel Gower m June 1782 Elizabeth Maclin, daughter of William Maclin, whose family had emigrated from Scotland to VA and drifted south to Johnson Co. According to the Bible record of Abel and Elizabeth (Maclin) Gower, they had six children: Polly, Nancy, John, Pherby, Robert M., and Ruben Gower.

Abel Gower stated in his application for pension that he had moved from Johnson Co. to Richmond Co., GA, where he was taxed in 1785 in Capt. Elsberry's district (later in Wilkes Co., now Oglethorpe Co.). He came to Gwinnett by 1823 where he lived at the time of his application for pension.

Abel and Elizabeth Gower attended Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church (on today's highway 81, between Winder and Loganville) when the church was organized 8/23/1823. According to the first church records, Abel Gower, a Baptist deacon when he came to Gwinnett, was one of the messengers elected to get a house for the meetings. Elizabeth Gower and their son Robert Maclin Gower and his wife Mary (Smith) Gower served as church constitution members. Abel Gower's pension application was signed by Elisha Winn and Mitchell Bennett, who was pastor at Shiloh 1827-1835.

In the 1836 Cheorkee Land Lottery, Abel Gower won land. In the 1840 U.S. Census he and wife, both age 80-90 res. Harbins District.

According to pension application of widow Elizabeth Gower, Abel Gower d 7/17/1841. She drew a pension as late as 3/4/1854. She must have died between March and April pension payments. They are probably buried in Gower Cemetery or at Shiloh.

Their son Robert Maclin Gower drew lot 295, Fifth District in the 1820 land lottery in Gwinnett. He and his second wife Mildred T. Gower are buried in a family cemetery near the west side of that land lot. Their birth and death dates are inscribed on their tombstones, but there are 35 unmarked graves in the plot. Issue of Abel and Elizabeth Gower:

I. Robert Maclin Gower (8/11/1797-5/1/1874) m #1 3/22/1820 Mary M. Smith in Clark Co. Issue, all b Gwinnett.
  A. Robert P. Gower m #1 1843 in Gwinnett Eliza Baty and had son:
    1. James Gower.
  Robert P. Gower m #2 8/12/1847 in Walton Co. Mary Conner. Issue:
    2. Mary J. Gower m 1872 James Tanner.
    3. Robert M. Gower (1855-9/6/1931) m Jane Bowen (5/25/1855-7/3/1924); issue:
      (a) James Jefferson Gower (Oct. 1875-1960).
      (b) Robert Emory Gower b 3/3/1877.
      (c) William Thomas Gower b 11/22/1878.
      (d) John Boldin Gower b 4/6/1881.
      (e) Cammie Jane Gower b 10/4/1883.
      (f) Ritta Dedamie Gower (11/1/1889-6/26/1945).
      (g) Lucillus (Sid) Gower b 11/3/1894.
    4. Amanda J. Gower m Eugene Gilbert.
    5. John Gower.
    6. William T. Gower m Cynthia Bowen.
    7. Elijah Gower.
  B. Mary E. R. Gower m 1849 John G. Thacker and had son, Ezkiel Thacker.

Robert Maclin Gower m #2 3/6/1826 in Oglethorpe Co. Mildred T. Buford; issue:
  C. Angeline A. Gower m 1845 George T. Bradley; issue:
  John, Anna and Phillip Bradley.
  D. Harriett Delphia Gower (8/1/1828-2/25/1898) bur. Shiloh Church, Walton Co. m William H. Smith; issue:
  Narcesse, Robert, Brewer, Nancy, Millie and Cora Smith.
  E. Eliza Ann Gower (1/4/1830-11/9/1886) m 1/7/1851 John F. Martin

Bedingfield (5/29/1831-6/24/1863) son of Hardy and Nancy (Rogers) Bedingfield of Walton Co. (*see Hardy Bedingfield*).

F. John M. Gower m 1856 Sophia Pannell; son: Berry Gower.

G. Philip H. B. Gower m Sara M. Smith, daughter of Jonathon and Frances (Reeves) Smith. Issue:
James, Frances M., Jonathon, William M., and Sara M. C. Gower.

H. Abel W. D. b 1832 m 1851 in Gwinnett Sara S. Stanford (1/9/1839-9/3/1920). Issue:
1. William J. Gower.
2. Sara J. (Sallie) Gower.
3. Stephen M. Gower m Mary Rebecca Edmonds.
4. Millie Gower.
5. Nancy Gower.

I. Mildred V. Gower (7/3/1839-12/9/1906) m 1855 David H. Hamilton in Gwinnett (4/22/1832-11/13/1912). Issue:
Millie E., Mary, Martha A., Thomas S., Lou Ella and Abel S. Hamilton m 1899 Lula King.

J. David Spencer Gower m 1861 in Gwinnett Mary E. Hamilton; issue:
Angie Gower m 1882 in Gwinnett W. H. Goodwin; Emerson, Robert, Oscar, and Aaron Gower.

K. Nancy Gower m A. M. Freeman.

II. Ruben Gower b 1812 m Mary ——— b 1812; issue:
A. E. (?) Gower b 1828.
B. Abel Gower b 1830.
C. William E. Gower b 1833.
D. Sara Gower b 1839.
E. Nancy Gower b 1841.

The Ruben Gower family lived in Harbin's District of Gwinnett 1840, 1850, and 1860 when the censuses were taken. The birthdates are surmissed from the 1850 census when some of the older children had already married and left home.

SHADRACK L. GREEN

By Therman Washington Green
and Mary Alice Green Robinson

The place of birth and the names of the parents of Shadrack L. Green (10/13/1800-5/13/1864) are unauthenicated. The 1790 census shows three Shadrack Greens in Rutherford Co., NC, and it is assumed one of them was Shadrack L.'s father. His name is in Franklin Co. and Hall Co., GA histories. Because old boundaries varied from present-day county lines, it is not known just when or where. Shadrack Green located in Gwinnett, but his family was in Sweetwater district by the 1860 census.

It is assumed he was a farmer. He is bur. Fairview Presbyterian Cemetery. His first wife (name, dates unknown) is thought to be bur. Shakerag (Sheltonville) community, Fulton Co. They had seven children. Shadrack m #2 2/3/1855 Benisa Ann Owens (5/12/1818-7/7/1914) and had three children. Issue:

I. Emily Green (1840-1928), early member of McKendree Methodist, where she is buried.
II. Polly Green (1841-1921) bur. McKendree.
III. William Green b 1843.
IV. Lucretia Green (1844-1928) m #1 1861 J. H. Lee, m #2 George Wynn; bur. McKendree; (*see below*).
V. James Ira Green (1845-10/26/1924) m Julia Atkinson; (*see below*).
VI. Thomas Green b 1848; bur. Birmingham, AL.
VII. Nancy J. Green (2/29/1852-3/17/1926) m John H. Laneer; (*see below*).
VIII. Shadrack L. Green Jr. (11/2/1855-4/19/1884) bur. Fairview Presbyterian Cemetery; m 1882 A. S. Taylor.



Five of Shadrack L. Green's
l to r) Polly Green, Julia At
l to r) Nathan Green, Emily

IX. Henryetta G
Clarkesville,
X. Nathan Louis
below).
XI. George W.
Lucretia Green (*IV*
issue:
A. John William

d.—5/18/1761 — R. 6/2/1761. Book 1758-64, Page 254. Estate appraised 7/7/1761.

WILL OF WILLIAM PARSONS: The Younger

LEGATEES:

Son Thomas at 21 years of age on land I bought of Mrs. Thomasine Rogers. Daughter — Nancy.

Starkey Robinson Jr. — friend and relative and god-father of son Thomas.

EXS: Starkey Robinson Jr. and Wife.

Died 1/29/1760 R. 5/6/1760 Appraised 7/7/1761.

SARAH PARSONS, ADMNX.

John Parsons Jr. Page 85 — 1713 — 300 Acres Book 10. Elizabeth City Co., Virginia.

DUNKIN — DUNCAN

WILL OF JOHN DUNKIN, Westmoreland Co., Va. 20 June 1716. 22 February 1726.

To: Son Peter, land left me by my deceased father, Peter Dunkin.

SONS: James and Péter and William. (above)

DAUGHTERS: Elizabeth, Anne, Alice, Phyllis. (Who married William Rochester)

Grandchildren — John and Elizabeth, children of James Dunkin. Also, John, son of son Peter.

WILL OF RICHARD WEST — 4/7/1687-8 Westmoreland Co., Va. 4/27/1698

To: Charles, son of Peter Dunkin, Peter, son of Peter Dunkin; Mary Baker, John and Elizabeth Baker.

John Dunkin — Sergant at Glady Hollow Fort. Lords: Dunsmores. War of 1774.

WILL OF PETER DUNKIN. 9/13/1748. Westmoreland Co., Va. 1/31/1748.

Sons: Charles and George. Charles not yet 21 and guardian is James Baley.

George Dunkin — 12/31/1757 — 2/28/1758

Sisters: Elizabeth and Sarah Duncan, all of estate. Exr. Samuel Jackson.

Coleman Dunkin, Grandson of Coleman Read. 3/1742/8; 4/26/1748. Joseph Read — Richard was son. Wife of Coleman was Ruth; Daughters, Susannah and Mary. Coleman Brown. Coleman Dunkin, Ruth Asbery, Elizabeth Read, Grandson, Hutt.

Inventory of Charles Dunken by Frances Dunken of 8 July 1712, page 19. Croziers of Westmoreland Co., Va.

Did Peter Dunkin marry Richard Wests sister?

William Rochester born ca. 1680. Died 1750. Married 1st Phyllis Dunkin, daughter of John of Westmoreland Co., Va. and grand-daughter of Peter Dunkin.

Peter Dunkin Sr., father of John and grandfather of Phyllis, had following issue: Peter, William, John, Eliziabeth, Ann, Alice and James.

Peter, Sr., in addition to John seems to have had: (1) Elizabeth Dunkin; m. Geo. Harrison; (2) Ann Dunkin; m. Dennis Cornhill; (3) Ellen Dunkin—died without issue; (4) Rebecca Dunkin; m. Thomas Kertly?; (5) Matthew Dunkin; (6) Wm. Dunkin; (7) Charles Dunkin; (8) Henry Dunkin; m. Dorothy — . Wm. died without issue. Charles' wife was apparently Frances — .

Will of Peter, Sr. has never been found but apparently proved in 1676. Perhaps it was John's son Peter who was mentioned in will of Richard West.

GOWER — GORE (Hobbs, Greene, Meads, Clarke)

When John Gower made his will, his wife was Susannah — . She was not the mother of his children mentioned in his will. Their mother was Esther Green, daughter of Richard Green and his wife Anne (Hobbs) Green. Anne (Hobbs) Green was daughter of Richard Hobbs and his wife Mary (Meads) Hobbs who was a daughter of Thomas Meads of —.

In Richmond Co., Va., "Miscellaneous Records" 1699 — 1724", page 118, there is under date of 10/12/1714 an "acknowledgement" (i.e., receipt) by Mrs. Anne Green, widow, from John Gower for all dues belonging to him by right of Hester, his wife, and (he) acquits and discharges said Mrs. Ann Green, relict of Mr. Richard Green, deceased, from "all debts, dues and demands, bills, bonds and accounts from the beginning of the world to the present date."

Also; Richmond Co., Va., Order Book 4, Page 74. Date; 10/4/1705 Anne Green appointed administratrix of the estate of Richard Greene, deceased.

In (Old) Rappahannock Co., Va., will book 2, page 109, there is the will of Henry

Clarke which is dated 1678. In this will he names his son-in-law, Francis Gower.

"Cavaliers and Pioneers" by Nell Marion Nugent (1934), page 251, date 11/15/1653 on original grant of 280 acres to Francis Gower. Same book page 310, date 1655 this 280 acres plus 250 more was patented to said Francis Gower. The additional 250 acres of this patent was land which had been assigned to Francis Gower by James Williamson for the use of his son, James Gower.

James Gower died unmarried and willed to his brother the above mentioned 250 acres (see Rappahannock Co., Va., Deed Book 5, page 511. This will dated 3/30/1666.)

In 1675 Francis Gowner deeded this land to his brother, Stanley Gore (see Rappahannock Co., Va., Deed book 5, page 512, Deed of Gift.)

The service claimed is for the ORIGINAL GRANT of 280 acres to Francis Gower, Sr., November 15, 1653.

WILL OF WINNIFRED GOWER is in Will Book 5, page 81 in Richmond Co., Va. WILL OF JOHN GOWER is in Will Book 5, page 20 of Richmond Co., Va.

Francis Gower Sr., married Mary B. — ? — died before 1653. Richmond Co., Va. Deed Book 7, page 13. 10/11/1714 Anne Greene. Richmond Co., Order Book 4, page 74. 10/4/1705 Anne Greene.

Francis Gower Sr., married before 1655 when James Williamson assigned to him land for the use of his son James Gower. This land granted to him 11/15/1653 and patented 1655. "See Nugent page 251 and 310 in "Cavaliers and Pioneers".

Francis Gower Sr., and wife sold land to Pettit, (see old) Rappahannock records 1656-1664 pages 127-128) Deed of Francis and Mary Gower to Pettit for 280 acres.

John Gower died 9/26/1726. Richard Green may have been a son of Nathaniel Green.

Richard Hobbs may have been a son of Thomas Hobbs. Richard Green died about 10/4/1705 and wife Anne died after 10/12/1714. Francis Gower Jr., was living 3/30/1666 in Old Rappahanock Co., Va.

Francis Gower — Lancaster Co., Va. Page 56—1653 280 acres Book 3. Francis Gower—Lancaster Co., Va. Page 352—1655 530 acres, Book 3. Richard Hobbs signed a will as Richard Webbs and was age 37 in 1681.

Pierce Gower and Stanley Gower 26 January 1734, Page 55. Inventories returned. Wills in Westmoreland Co., Va.

Katherine Lewis married Harry Knox Gore of Ireland.

There was a Standley Gower of Bedford Co., Va.

Stanley Gower — Son of Francis and Ann Gower, born 11/17/1679.

Francis Gower— Son of Francis and Ann Gower, born 4/15/1682

Francis Gower — Son of Francis and Esther Gower, born 2/2/1706. Vol. 7 Vol. 54.

Francis Gower died 1/7/1726.

Susannah Gower died 12/11/1726.

Winnifred Gower died 5/20/1721

Francis Gower died 9/11/1729

Francis, son of Francis and Rachel Gower born 12/15/1726)

John Branham married Rachel Gower 3/16/1726) Vol. 61.

William Beale married — Harwar — 4/29/1729)

Stanley Gower and Margaret (Peirce) Gower had two sons: Peirce Gower who married Frances Carpenter and Stanley Gower who married Winifred (Greene) Spencer who was a sister of Esther (Greene) Gower. Peirce Gower has a daughter named Margaret.

Francis Gower married Anne Clarke, daughter of Henry Clarke and Joan (—) Clarke of old Rappahannock County, Virginia. The names of three children are known: Stanley (who married Sarah Jackson); Francis (who presumably died in infancy); and John who married Esther Greene and Susannah — .

Stanley Gower who married Sarah Jackson lived in Richmond County, Virginia. He had: John, Catherine, Frances (who married William Sisson); and Stanley who married Martha —; and Anne who married Joshua Singleton. You erroneously show her husband as John Singleton. And you show Catherine as wife of John; she was his sister.

The children of John Gower who married Esther Greene and Susannah — were: Francis who married Rachel — ; Anne who married William Thrift; Winifred who died unmarried; and Elizabeth who married Edward Jones.

THE BRIEF RECORDS OF THE GOWERFAMILY IN ENGLAND WHICH COULD BE THE POSSIBLE ANCESTORS OF OUR FRANCIS GOWER OF VIRGINIA

The Visitation of Yorkshire, made in the years 1584/5, by Robert Glover, Somerset Herald; to which is added the subsequent Visitation made in 1612, by Richard St. George, Norray King of Arms, with several additional pedigrees, including "The Arms Taken Out of Churches and Houses at Yorkshire Visitation, 1584/5," "Sir Wm. Fayrfax' Booke of Arms." and other Heraldic Lists, with Copious Indices. Edited by Joseph Foster (1875). Page 226 – Bulmer.

GOWER OF STITTENHAM

Arms: Quarterly, 1 and 4 Barry of 8, Argent and gules, a cross patoncee Sable, Gower, 2 and 3 Ermine, a cross patoncee gules, GRINDALL.
Crest: Oen a Tarce, Argent and gules, a "Gower", argent, collared and chained or.

(a) Sir Thomas Gower, Stitnam; m. Agnes, dau. of – Thwaytes, of Lofthouse.

Issue of (a) SIR THOMAS GOWER

aa Thomas Gower – Sans issue.
ab Sir John Gower; m. Elizabeth, dau. of Edward Goldsborough, Baron of the Exchequer.
ac Anne Gower; m. Ralph Ellerker. (Alice, MS. 1487)

Issue of (ab) SIR JOHN GOWER

aba Daughter; m. Lacy, of Falketon
abb Daughter; m. Constable, of Sherburn
abc Margaret Gower; m. James Aislaby (see Holme)
abd Daughter Gower; m. Hungate, of Saxton
abe John Gower
abf Robert Gower of London (MS. 1571)
abg Walter Gower
abh George Gower; m. dau. and heir of Statham, of Northants.
abi Anne Gower
abj Sir Edward Gower, of Stitnam; m. Margery, dau. to Sir Robert Constable, of Flamborough
abk Joan Gower; m. Hugh Clitheraw, of Brantingham
abl Elizabeth Gower; m. Christopher Fenton, of Creyke.

Issue of (abh) GEORGE GOWER

abha George Gower; m. Katherine, dau. of – Cotton (MS. 6070 states this George to be son, and NOT a brother of Christopher)
abhb Thomas Gower
abhb(1) Christopher Gower; m. Hellen, dau. of Anthony Monkton, of Hayton.

Issue of (abj) SIR EDWARD GOWER

abja Agnes Gower; m. Sir John Widdrington, of Widdrington. (ann, MS, 1487)
abjb Barbara Gower; m. Henry, son to the 2nd Sir John Widdrington.
abjc Katherine Gower; m. Walter, son and heir to Thomas de la River, of Bransley.
abjd Thomas Gower of Stitnam, Esq.; m. Anne, dau. of James Maleverer, sans issue; m. 2nd Barbara, dau. of – Baxter.
abje Richard Gower; m. Agnes, dau. and co-heir to Wm. Levinges, of Acclom. (Bransby, MSS. 1415, 1487).

Issue of (abjd) THOMAS GOWER

abjd a Thomas Gower of Stitnam, Esq., living in 1584; m. Mary, dau. of Gabriel Fairfax, of Steeton.
abjd b Henry Gower
abjd c Wm. Gower
abjd d Edward Gower
abjd e Esabel Gower
abjd f Jane Gower
abjd g Barbara Gower.

Issue of (abje) RICHARD GOWER

abje a Edward Gower
abje b Thomas Gower
abje c John Gower (MS. 1571)
abje d Francis Gower–this could be our Francis Gower of Va. or his ancestor, see also abjd ag.
abje e Ralph Gower; m. – dau. of Maleverer.

Issue of (abjd a) THOMAS GOWER

abjd aa John Gower; died young
abjd ab Elizabeth Gower; wife to – Coventry.

abjd ac Thomas Gower, alt. 8 days old in Sept, 1584 (b. Sept. 9, MS. 6070), since a Knt. and Bart., a° 1620; m. – dau. and heir of – Dayley, of Co. Oxon.
abjd ad Robert Gower
abjd ae Edward Gower
abjd af Wm. Gower
abjd ag Francis Gower–b. ca. 1592; this could be the ancestor of our Francis Gower of Virginia or it could be him – see also (abje d).

Issue of (abjd ac) THOMAS GOWER

abjd aca Dayley Gower
abjd acb Thomas Gower, son and heir

18, 011, fo. 136 b. 1487, fo. 266 b. 1394, p. 159. 1171, fo. 15. 1415, fo. 12 b. 1420, fo. 115 b. 1499, fo. 36 b. 1571, fo. 101 b. 6070, fo. 166.

See Tong's Visitation, p. 62.

CLARKE

WILL OF HENRY CLARKE (Old Rappahannock Co., Va.)
To my son-in-law; Francis Gore; To my daughter; Elizabeth, wife of Angell Jacobus; To my son; John Clarke, wife Joane; Staneley Gower aged 19 when he came into court in Nov., 1678. He was one of the witnesses to the will.

WILL OF JOAN CLARK. March 8, 1682. May 3, 1683.
Daughter; Ann Gower and Elizabeth Jacobus; Stanley Gower., son of Ann and Francis Gower, also, Francis Gower, Jr. Elizabeth Jacobus, daughter of Angell and Elizabeth Jacobus. (These are grandchildren). Son; John Clarke.
Henry Clark married – Jones ? ? ? ?

PYLES (PILES), HARWAR, KILLMAN

In the book "Wills of Rappahannock Co., Va. 1656-1692 "William Montgomery Sweeney. The following marriages took place in Old Rappahanock Co., Va.
Samuel Harwar married, 1696, Ann Killman Book D-9-Page 54.
Rebecca Harwar, married in 1723 (sister to Henry Harwar) to Vincent Godfrey Pile, Book D17, Page 173
Ann Killman married 1696 (sister of George Killman and daughter of John) to Samuel Harwar. Book D-9; page 74.
Sarah Killman married 3/4/1690 (orphan of John) to Patrick Cammell. Book O-2; page 289.
Samuel Piles married 1746 Ann (relict, of Richard Williams.) Book D-24, page 52.
This record merely shows they were husband and wife of 1/20/1746 – it is not date of marriage.
WILL OF JOHN KILLMAN 19 January 1676 Old Rappahannock Co., Va.
Daughters: Ann, Sarah, Mary and son George. (Geo. not yet 16 years old)
Ruben and Esther (Rochester) Pyles married 11/13/1770. Ruben Pyles and Thomas Critcher signed the bonds. (Thos. Critcher) was second husband of Hester Thrift Rochester.
Abner Pyles (son of Reuben and Esther) died near Bush River in Laurens Co., S. C.

GODFREY, William - purchased land in 1790, on Flynn's Creek (Sumner Co. at the time, then Smith, then Jackson Cos.): [ref. 43].

GOINS (variously, GOIN, GOINGS), David - killed by Indians at Mansker's Station in 1780/81. He had slept late on the morning Mansker's Station was broken up and was shot in bed by Indians shooting through the portholes: [ref. 44a]. William Goings (sic) was granted administration of his estate by the Committee of the Cumberland Association, Mar. 4, 1783: [ref. 44b]

GOINS, William - administrator of the estate of David Goins, deceased (see above).

GOODLOE, Robert - signer of the Cumberland Compact, May, 1780: [ref. 45].

GOODWIN, Nathan - purchased land in 1788, on Caney Fork River (Sumner Co. as of Nov. 1788; afterwards, Smith Co.): [ref. 46].

GORDAN, Charles - 1789 Davidson Co. tax roll: [ref. 47].

GORDAN, Thomas - was with the Mansker party taking goods by boat to sell at Fort Natchez in 1769/70: [ref. 48].

GOWEN, William - signer of the Cumberland Compact, May, 1780: [ref. 49a]. Plaintiff in lawsuit against John Gibson concerning cattle belonging to the estate of David Gower, deceased, before the Committee of the Cumberland Association, July 1, 1783: [ref. 49b]. Member of the first Grand Jury, Oct. 7, 1783: [ref. 49c]. North Carolina land grant: [ref. 49d].

GOWER, Abel, Jr. - killed by Indians on the Cumberland River near Clover Bottom, while bringing harvested crops grown in the fields there: [ref. 50a]. Listed in the North Carolina Preemption Act of 1784, whose heirs or devisees were entitled to 640 acres without any price to be paid to the public: [ref. 50b].

GOWER, Abel, Sr. - arrived with the Donelson flotilla, April 24, 1780: [ref. 51]. killed by Indians at the same time as his son, Abel Gower, Jr. above.

GOWER, Elijah - married Prudence Coon in Davidson Co., 22 Dec. 1790: [ref. 52a]. Estate inventory recorded Oct. 1795, in Davidson Co.: [ref. 52b].

GOWER, Engley - married Thomas Russell in Davidson Co., Nov. 13, 1780: [ref. 53].

GOWER, Nancy - daughter of Abel Gower, Sr., came with her father to the Cumberland Settlement aboard the Donelson flotilla, April 24, 1780: [ref. 54].

GOWER, Russell - arrived with the Donelson flotilla, April 24, 1780: [ref. 55a]. Signer of the Cumberland Compact, May, 1780: [ref. 55b]. Witness for the plaintiff (Sanders vs. Thompson), before the Committee of the Cumberland Association, May 6, 1783: [ref. 55c]. Purchased a lot in the Town of Nashville: [ref. 55d].

GRACE, James - (heirs
Creek (Sumner Co. a
56].

GRAGG, Samuel - purcha
Branch: [ref. 57].

GRAHAM (variously, GRAH
brought by James Gra
a bed, heard befor
Association, April
land grant: [ref. 58b

GRAMER, John - 1787 Da
[ref. 59].

GRANT, Squire - 1787 I
[ref. 60].

GRAY, James - heir of J
GRAY, John - his heirs
in 1789, on Spring
Wilson Co.): [ref. 6
between Blooming Gr
(Tennessee Co. at th
61b].

GRAY, Joseph - heir of

GRAY, Randolph - (heir
Fork of Red River (Ten
Co.): [ref. 62].

GREEN, George - signer
[ref. 63].

GREEN, James - signer
[ref. 64].

GREEN, Jonathan - sig
1780: [ref. 65].

GREEN, Lewis - resided
River. On the way to
and died at a camp c
His nuncupative will
Sarah, on 7 April,
to his children: Zach
Payne; and Sarah, the
were several married
66].

GREEN, Mary - daughter
Payne (see father's sk

GREEN, Sarah - daught
Payne (see her father

GREEN, Thos. - summone
[ref. 67a]. Purchase
[ref. 67b].

HUTTON CEMETERY continued -

1) HUTTON, Wm. Carter) ______ "HUTTON (across top)/WM. CARTER/HUTTON/
Julia P.) M. D.?1842-1896/JULIA PEGRAM/HUTTON/1844-1923."
2) Footstone without inscription.
3) H., J. P.______________ Footstone: "J.P.H."
4) HUTTON, Wm. Carter______ "WM CARTER HUTTON, M.D./Born/Jan. 20, 1842/Died/Feb. 8, 1896/Dearest husband thou hast left us/Here thy loss we deeply feel/But tis God that hath bereft us/He can all our sorrows heal."
5) H., W. C.______________ Footstone: "W.C.H."
6) COX, Carter B.__________ "CARTER B./son of/J. R. & A. L. COX/ Died/Nov. 12, 1898/Aged/4 ys, 8 mo. 5 ds." (Monument is broken off and propped against a sapling.)
7) Sunken grave without marker.
8) C., J. R.______________ Footstone: "J.R.C." (leaning against cedar tree)
9) C., A. H.______________ Footstone: "A.H.C."

JAMES GOWER CEMETERY

Location: Bellevue, Tennessee U. S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Map #308 SW. The cemetery is located on the east side of a hill above the home of Mr. J. N. McFarland, about 400 yards from Buffalo Road at a point about 1 mile northeast of its intersection with U. S. Highway 70.

Comments: The cemetery is enclosed in a fence and is grown up in a thicket. Recorded by Richard C. Fulcher with the assistance of Scott McFarland and Rob Wright in November 1981. See PLAT on preceeding page for approximate location of markers and graves.

1) Sunken grave without marker.
2) GOWER, Kate H.)_________ "KATE HOWS/GOWER/Nov. 19, 1839/______
James A.) (on west side of monument)/JAMES A./ GOWER/Nov. 5, 1837/Jan. 13, 1908 (on east side of monument)."
3) Monument base only without inscription.
4) GOWER, James A., Jr.)___ "JAMES A./GOWER Jr./Feb. 19, 1873/June
Susie K.) 27, 1878/SUSIE KATE/GOWER/Apr. 4, 1878/ July 17, 1879."
5) G., J. A., Jr.__________ Footstone: "J.A.G.Jr."
6) G., N. G.______________ Footstone: "N.G.G."
7) G., K. H.______________ Footstone: "K.H.G."
8) G., J. A.______________ Footstone: "J.A.G."
9) GOWER, John D.__________ "JOHN DOW/GOWER/July 21, 1870/Oct. 23, 1897."
10) G., J. D.______________ Footstone: "J.D.G."
11) Sunken grave without marker.

JAMES GOWER CEMETERY continued -

12) GOWER nee COTTEN, Lula__"To my wife/LULA COTTEN/wife of/JOE A. GOWER/Sept. 30, 1876/July 7, 1907."
13) G., L. C.________________Footstone: "L.C.G."

PETER BOOTH CEMETERY

Location: Bellevue, Tennessee U. S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Map #308 SW. According to Mr. Ed Polk, this cemetery was located near the top of the ridge in the Bellevue Manor Sub-division off U. S. Highway 70. He remembered 3 individual graves being at the site, but one burial, that of a child was removed for reinterment elsewhere. He also remembered the name "PETER BOOTH" on a flat monument at the site.

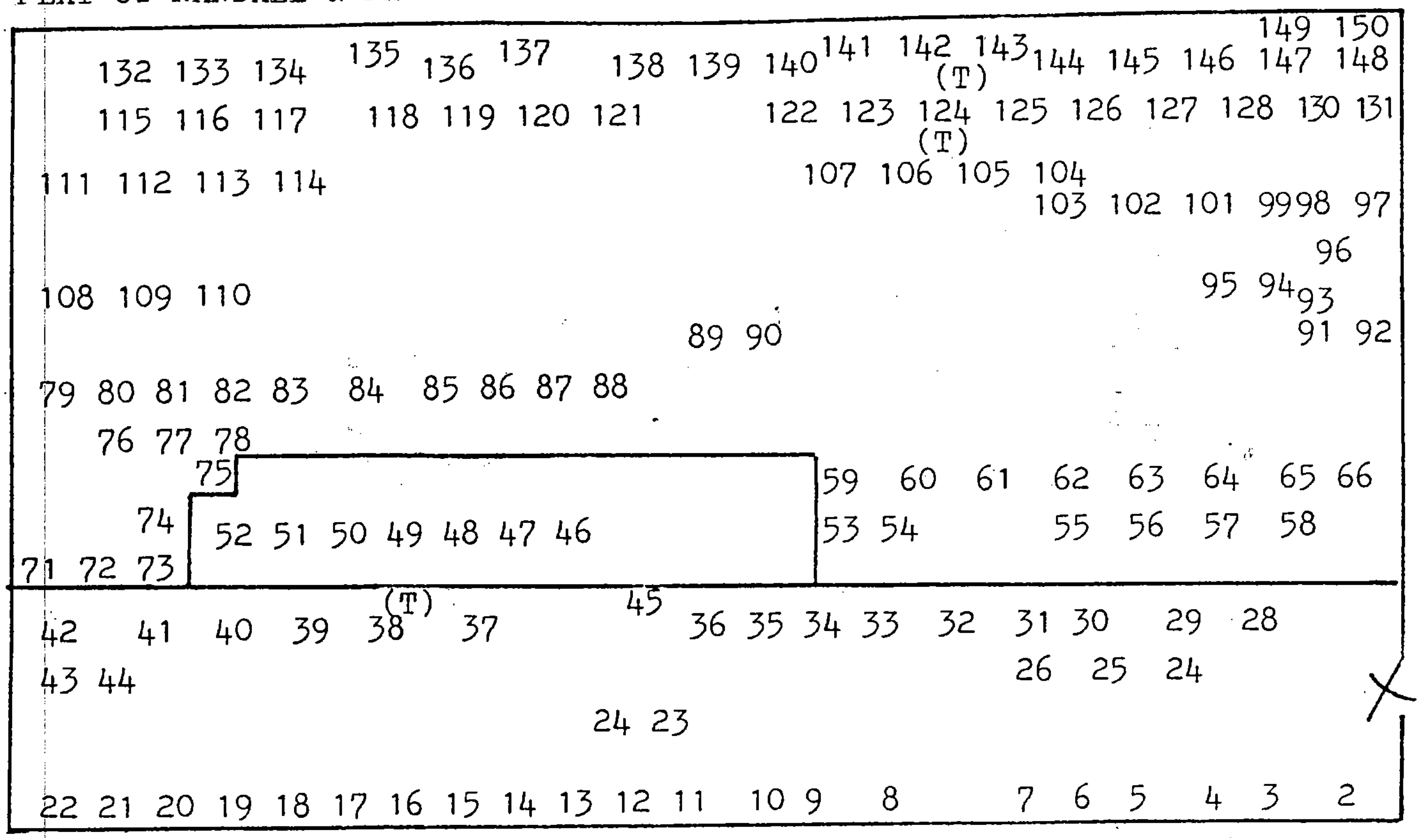
HOBBS CEMETERY

Location: Bellevue, Tennessee U. S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Map #308 SW. This cemetery is located in a heavy thicket on a bench of a hill a few yards above and west of Overall Creek, about 675 feet west of Old Hickory Blvd. at a point about 1 1/2 miles north of its intersection with U. S. Highway 70S.

Comments: The cemetery is enclosed in a woven wire fence and for the most part is heavily grown up in a thicket. Recorded in October 1981 by Richard C. Fulcher.

1) O'BRIEN, A.) E. J.)__________"A. O'BRIEN/Jan. 22, 1849/________/I go to my reward/follow me/E. J. O'BRIEN/ March 11, 1853/Aug. 11, 1917/A loving wife, a mother/dear, lies buried here. (Large monument which has fallen)
2) Base with the inscription "FATHER and MOTHER."
3) O., E. J.________________Footstone: "E.J.O."
4) Rock marker without inscription.
5) Rock marker without inscription.
6) Rock marker without inscription.
7) Rock marker without inscription.
8) Large metal funeral home marker without inscription.
9) H., B.________________Footstone: "B.H."
10) Metal funeral home marker without inscription.
11) HULEN, Jo(?)nathan______"JO(?)NATHAN/HULEN/Born/Aprl(sic) 22, 1797/Died/Mar. 22, 1887."
12) Rock marker without inscription.
13) Rock marker without inscription.
14) Rock marker without inscription.
15) HULAN, Eliza____________"ELIZA HULAN/Born/June 25, 1808/Died/ Jun 16, 1902."
16) Rounded top monument without inscription.
17) MAYNARD, Preston) Martha E.)____(only the base to this monument is standing, the stone having been carryed off. This is the author's maternal great grand father and great grand mother's grave)
18) M., M. E.________________Footstone: "M.E.M."
19-35) Rock markers without inscriptions.

PLAT of RANDALL & PA[illegible]ER Cemeteries



GOWER CEMETERY

Location: Scottsboro, Tennessee U. S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Map #308 NW. The cemetery is located on a slight rise about 50 to 75 yards south of the Centenary United Methodist Church and about 100 yards east of Gower Road at a point about 4/10 mile south of its intersection with River Road Pike.

Comments: The cemetery is located in a heavy thicket and is not fenced. Recorded by Richard C. Fulcher in November 1979, at which time gate posts were still standing where the old gate had been.

1) BRADFORD, Susan L.______"SUSAN L./BRADFORD/Died/July 26, 1904/ Age 60 years."
2) RUSSELL, James__________"JAMES RUSSELL/Pvt. N. C. Troops/Rev. War."
3) GATLIN, Nathan__________"NATHAN GATLIN/Born/Jan. 30, 1782/Died/ March 8, 1865."
4) GATLIN, Obedience_______"OBEDIENCE GATLEN (sic)/Born/Dec. 16, 1787/Died/June 18, 1866."
5) GOWER, Rev. WILLIAM_____"Rev[d] WILLIAM GOWER/Born/Oct. 6, 1776/ Died/Oct. 11, 1851." (Footstone: "W.G.")
6) GOWER, Charlotte________"CHARLOTTE GOWER/Born/July 1, 1782/Died/ April 16, 1860." (Footstone: "C.G.")
7) Monument base only.
8) Monument base only.

9) GOWER, Lorenzo D.______"LORENZO D./GOWER/Born/Sept. 27, 1806/ Died /July 11, 1892/Asleep in/Jesus/ Blessed Thought." (Stone has fallen)

10) D., L.______Footstone: "L.D."

11) Rock marker without inscription.

12) KIMBRO, Henry E.______"HENRY/E./KIMBRO Born/Nov. 22, 1850/Died/ Sept. 12, 1890/Gone but not forgotten."

13) Rock marker without inscription.

14) JOHNSON, A. J.______"A. J. JOHNSON/Born/Born/Sept. 24, 1842/ Died/______." (Stone has fallen and is broken)

15) M., F. S.______ Footstone: "F.S.M."

16) JOHNSON, Ina C.______"INA/CHRISTINE JOHNSON/Feb. 8, 1906/May 23, 1927/She was the sunshine of/our home." (stone has fallen) Footstone: "I.C.J."

The following inscriptions were included in Jeannette T. Acklen's book entitled, Tennessee Records, Tombstone Inscriptions and Manuscripts, Historical and Biographical, Vol. 1 (Nashville 1931) and/or Cemetery Manuscript (ac. no. 71-91) filed in the Manuscripts Section of the Tennessee State Library and Archives. The author did not locate these monuments during his visit to the cemetery.

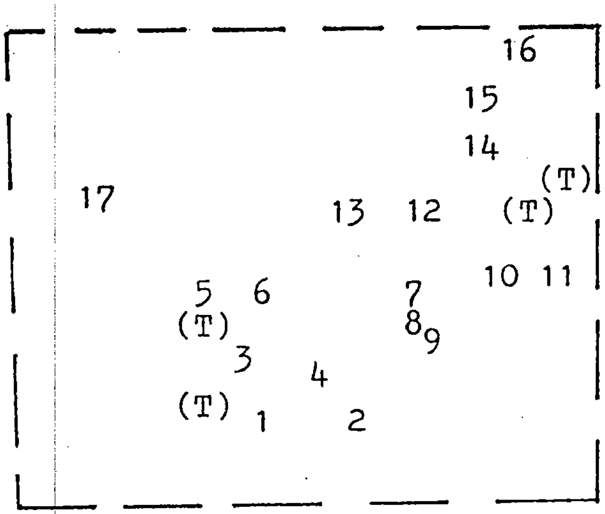
17) GOWER, Nancy L.______"NANCY L. GOWER Born Mar 19, 1805 Died Oct. 7, 1885."

18) ROBERTSON, Mary E.______"MARY E. ROBERTSON born Nov. 24, 1828 died June 28, 1910, Gone Home."

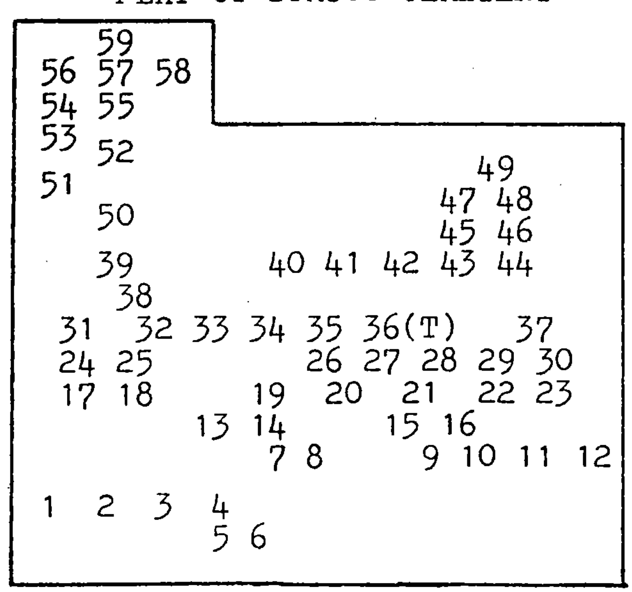
19) JOHNSON, Lonnie H.______"LONNIE H. JOHNSON born May 3, 1907 died Oct. 13, 1923."

20) JOHNSON, Walter S.______"WALTER S. JOHNSON born June 13, 1879 died May 28, 1924."

PLAT of GOWER CEMETERY



PLAT of DeMOSS CEMETERY



(continued) 6 Dec 1791, Hill b 8 Sep 1793, Clarasa 2nd b 10 Jun 1795, Abiah b 7 Jan 1798, Elern b 25 Jul 1800, Loren b 4 Dec 1802 Loren 2nd b 3 Apr 1804, Alburt b 12 Oct 1807, Henry b 6 Feb 1809, Delina b 5 Mar 1812, Norton b 28 Jun 1814, Norton 2nd b 15 Jun 1816 & Hill (2nd son named Hill) b 3 Nov 1818

GOWDY, John, S31066, CT Line, appl 16 Oct 1832 Steuben Co NY aged 73; sol lived at Summers (Somers) in Hartford Co CT at enl & he was b there 10 May 1759 & in 1784 moved to Sandersfield MA for 4 yrs then to Colebrook MA for 3 or 4 yrs then to Westmoreland & Oneida Cos NY for several yrs then to Rome NY then to Smithfield in Madison Co NY for 13 yrs then to Italy which was then in Ontario Co but now in Yates Co NY for 8 or 9 yrs then to Howard in Steuben Co NY

Samuel, S15151, CT Line, appl 20 Sep 1832 Lewis Co NY aged 72 a res of Martinsburgh NY, sol enl at Somers CT & also srv as a sub for his father (not named)

GOWELL, Benjamin, Susanna, W24294, MA Line, sol m Susanna Pike 1 Sep 1774 both were of Berwick in York Co MA (ME) & sol lived there at enl, sol appl 7 Aug 1832 York Co ME aged 80 in Sep 1832, sol d 23 Nov 1839, wid appl 12 Sep 1843 York Co ME Aged 88

GOWEN, Ezekiel or Ezekiel Gowan, Lucy, W14796, BLW #28566-160-55, MA Line & Navy Srv, sol m Lucy Douglass 4 Dec 1784 both were of Pepperell in Middlesex Co MA, sol appl 15 Apr 1818 Worcester Co MA, in 1820 sol had a wife aged 55 & children; Nabby 20, Bathsheba 16 & Eli aged 14, wid appl 21 Mar 1848 Middlesex Co MA aged 83 a res of Shirley MA, sol d 24 Nov 1847, wid appl for BLW 3 Apr 1855

Francis, S34902, PA Line, appl 20 Jul 1819 Wayne Co in MI Terr & he was still there in 1821

Frederick or Frederick Goen, R4167, VA Line, see Frederick Goen

Jacob, S32273, VA Line, sol lived in Henry Co VA at enl, appl 5 Mar 1834 Vermillion Co IL aged 72, sol was b in 1762 in Henry Co VA & after the Rev War he moved to KY for 30 yrs then to Vincennes IN then to Vermillion Co IL

John, Mary, W23128, BLW #2348-160-55, Cont & MA Line, wid appl 26 Sep 1838 York Co ME aged 71 a res of Wells ME, sol & wid had m 25 Dec 1787, sol d in Jun 1809, wid appl for BLW 16 Mar 1855

William or William Gowin, Elizabeth, R4166, MA Line, sol lived in Wells MA (ME) at enl, sol m Elizabeth Davis in 1777 at Lee MA & sol d in May 1817 at Waterford VT & his wid d in Aug 1838 at DePeyster in St. Lawrence Co NY, a daughter Sarah wife of Jonathan Hunter appl 30 Jul 1856 Tuscola Co MI aged 66 as only surviving child of dec'd sol & wid, she mentioned a bro who d in Canada

Zephaniah, R4165, VA Line, appl 18 Dec 1834 Hawkins Co TN aged 76, sol lived in Henry Co VA at enl, sol was b in Halifax Co VA

GOWENS, Charles, S31072, BLW #26106-160-55, VA Line, appl 22 Oct 1833 Gallatin Co KY aged 70, sol was b in 1763 in Henry Co VA & he lived there at enl & in 1797 moved to KY, he appl for BLW 7 Apr 1855

GOWER, Abel, Elizabeth, W7552, NC Line, appl 5 Oct 1832 Gwinnett Co GA aged 74, sol lived in Johnston Co NC at enl & at the close of the Rev War he moved to Richmond Co GA then to Wilkes Co GA the part that became Oglethorpe Co GA then to Clarke Co GA then to Gwinnett Co GA, sol was b 17 Oct 1757, wid appl 26 Jun 1843 Gwinnett Co GA aged 78, sol & wid had m in Jun 1782, a son Robert M. Gower was aged 46 in 1843 a res of Gwinnett Co GA & that 4 children were older than himself, towit; Polly, Nancy, John & Phereby the oldest of which "if alive" would be aged 54

George, S22791, PA Line, sol lived in Northampton Co PA at enl & he appl there 16 Apr 1833 aged 74

Matthew, R4168, NC Line, appl 1 Jul 1850 Lawrence Co TN aged 88, a son Enoch Gower of Lawrence Co TN signed p.o.a. as heir of dec'd sol on 29 Jan 1853

GOWIN, William or William Gowen, Elizabeth, R4166, MA Line, see William Gowen

GOWING, Jabez, Sarah, W14805, MA Line, sol m Sarah Jagues 4 May 1784 both were of Wilmington in Middlesex Co MA & wid appl there 3 Sep 1838 aged 75, sol d 25 Sep 1830 aged 73

GOWNS, Edward or Edward McGowns, Susannah, W1304, BLW #11392-160-55, MA Line, see Edward McGowns

GOYNE, James, S30442, SC Line, appl 18 May 1836 Kemper Co MS aged about 81, sol lived in Camden Dist SC at enl & in 1784 moved to Burke Co GA for 5 yrs then to Warren Co GA for 2 yrs then to Washington Co GA for 5 yrs then to Hancock Co GA for 3 yrs then to St. Elna Parish LA for 5 yrs then to Lawrence Co MS for 2 yrs then to Copiah Co MS & in Dec 1834 he moved to Kemper Co MS

GRAAF, John or John Gauf, S41557, PA Line, see John Gauf

GRACE, Aaron, BLW #9483-100-30 Jul 1789, srv as a Pvt in Moylan's PA Dragoons

Benjamin, S44169, NH Line, appl 29 Apr 1818 Ontario Co NY aged 58 a res of Lyons NY, in 1820 sol had a wife aged 57 & children Emily 15, Harriet 13 & Darius 10, in 1831 he had moved to ME with children

Charles B., S13218, NH Line, appl 11 Sep 1832 Rockingham Co NH aged 80, sol d 11 Feb 1837 leaving children; Joseph Grace of Portsmouth NH aged 44 & Izetta Shapley, sol lived at Portsmouth NH at enl

George, BLW #9482-100-5 Aug 1789 assignee John Baldwin, srv as a Pvt in Moylan's PA Dragoons

Jacob, S39629, PA Line, appl 26 Mar 1818 at Philadelphia PA

James, BLW #7171-100-15 Sep 1790 assignee John S. Hobart et al, srv as a Pvt in the NY Line

John, MA Line, sol's name appeared on a list of claimants returned by MA to the House of Reps on 25 Apr 1794, srv as a Lt in the 1st MA Regt & was disabled at the battle of Monmouth, lived at Lenox MA

John, S17988, MA Line, appl 31 Jul 1832 at Scarborough ME aged 59

John or John Gracey, S34375, BLW #1925-100, NJ Line, appl 16 Apr 1818 Cape May Co NJ aged 62, in 1820 sol had a wife Judith aged 54 & children; William 18, Levi 15, Reuben 13 & a daughter aged 10, sol d 10 Apr 1835 & 1 of 5 surviving children rec'd final pay on 15 Mar 1854

John, Nancy, W7582, NC Line, sol lived in Wayne Co NC at enl, sol appl 9 Oct 1832 Tattnall Co GA aged 71, after the Rev War sol lived in SC & in 1807 moved to Tattnall Co GA, sol was b in Wayne Co GA, wid appl 13 Oct 1843 Tattnall Co GA aged 75, sol & wid m in 179, sol d 22 Dec 1839

John, BLW #9486-100-27 Oct 1791, srv as a Dragoon in the PA Line

Joseph, Mara (no i), R4171, MA Line, sol was b 6 Apr 1758 at Newburyport or Wilmington MA, sol m Mara Sargeant 20 Apr 1780 at Chelsea MA & she was b 9 Oct 1762, sol d 7 Sep 1823 at Springfield MA, wid appl 4 Dec 1838 Bradford Co PA, sol lived at Reading or Wilmington MA at enl, wid d 30 Aug 1844, children were; Elizabeth b 16 Dec 1780 & she m Elisha Fanning, Jr. in 1800 & she d 25 Jun 1814, Mary b 26 Mar or May 1782 & she m Samuel Sargeant in 1806 & she d 31 Mar 1841, Joseph b 26 Nov 1783 & he m Debnor Leonard in Nov 1804 & he d 9 Feb 1825, George b 4 May 1785 & he m Clorissa (cont next pg)

Bettie Cox, daughter of J.H. and Parthenia Smith and consort of W.T. Cox was born Nov. 6, 1855, Williamson Co., Texas.
Sarah L. James died February 27th A.D. 1858 in the 19th year of her age.
Margaret Porter wife of John Porter, Sen'r died March 20th 1861 in the 88th year of her age.
M.P. Cox died May 10th A.D. 1869 in the 37th year of his age.
Margaret H. James died Oct 24 1869 in the 35th year of her age.
Bettie Cox, consort of W.T. Cox died Aug 5 1878 Crockett Co., Tenn.
Hiram S. Cox, son of W.T. and Bettie Cox was born July 20 1878 and died Sept 21 1878, Gadsden, Crockett Co., Tenn.
W.T. and Bettie Smith was married Aug 16 1877 Williamson Co., Texas

Children of Moses Cox and Mary Porter Cox

1. Sophronia Evaline Cox was born September 3rd in the year of our Lord 1827
2. James Alexander Cox was born 16th Aug 1829
3. Moses Porter Cox was born April 26th A.D. 1831
4. Margaret Hannah Cox was born July 9th A.D. 1833
5. Mary Louisa Cox was born September 20th 1835
6. Martha Ann Cox was born February 17, 1838
7. Sarah Lucinda Cox was born February 20th A.D. 1840
8. John Francis Marion Cox was born July 17th in the year of our Lord 1842
9. Louis Campbell Cox was born November 5th 1844
10. Asenath Lucretia Cox was born February 20th A.D. 1847
11. William Trousdale Cox was born August 2nd 1849
12. Manerva Candace Cox was born December 10th A.D. 1852

WOODWARD-McCLENDON-GOWER BIBLE RECORDS

Correction of information published in July 1961 issue of Ansearchin News titled "Woodward and Gower Family Bible Records". Corrections made by Mrs. W.H. Lee, great granddaughter of Berry Franklin Gower, who owns the Bible. Mrs. Lee says the records were sent to Miss Irene Gower, our contributor, by myself, in the correct form. Corrections made in earlier record.
Submitted by Mrs. Thomas A. McAdams

Family Record

Marriages:
Fielder Woodward was married to Catherine Joseph July 1. 1804
John Woodward was married to Jane Williams November 23, 1826
Moses Woodward was married to Eliza W. Lock August 20, 1829
Nicholas Gower was married to Matilda Woodward September 17, 1829
Sarah Eveline McClendon daughter of Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza his wife was married to Berry F. Gower Dec 11, 1856 on Spring Creek in Lawrence County, Tenn.
Thomas Woodward was married to Marget Kilpatrick July 26, 1828
Nathan McClendon Bot this book as the property of Fielder Woodward on the 21st day of Jany. 1833

Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza Franks daughter of John and Sarah Franks were married on the 6th day of December 1832
Nathan McClendon born July 7, 1796 Anson Coty, N.C.
Caroline Eliza Franks daughter of John & Sarah Franks born June 12, 1818 in Blount Coty, Ten.
Minerva J. McClendon daughter of Nathan & C.E. his wife married to F.M. Frank Feb. 15, 1852 in Lawrence County, Tenn.

Births:
Fielder Woodward was born Sept. 15, 1779
Catharine Joseph was born June 26, 1784
Thomas Woodward was born April 7, 1805
John Woodward was born March 5, 1807
Moses Woodward was born July 19, 1808
Bennet Woodward was born Feb. 21, 1810
Matilda Woodward was born Oct. 23, 1811
Pollyann Woodward of John Woodward was born Sept. 18, 1827
Nicholas Gower was born Oct. 29, 1807
Berry F. Gower was born Nov. 11, 1830
William Fielder Gower was born May 28, 1832
Mary Minerva Jane daughter of Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza his wife was born on tuesday evening 17th September 1833
Sarah Eveline 2nd daughter of Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza his wife was born on monday morning 2nd day of May 1836
Franklin McClendon son of Nathan McClendon & C.E. his wife was born Thursday night 25th October 1838 in Lawrence County, Ten.

HOWEL JOHNSTON

Publisher: Published by C. Ewen and T. Bedlington, Boston 1825
Original owner: Howel Johnston ?
Bible in possession of Mrs. William D. (Maggie) Perrin, Fayetteville, Tenn.

Family Record

Marriages:
Howel Johnston and Orpha Norris was married October 17th 1811
Stephen Johnston and Martha Bright was married Feb. 15th 1866
Stephen Johnston and Sarah Jane Moore was married Oct. 18, 1876
Maggie May Johnston was married Dec 25 1903 to Tom Quayle

Births:
Alston Johnston was born January 13th . 1813
Eliza Johnston was born January 3(2 or 3) . 1815
Allen Johnston was born February 13th . 1817
Larkin H. Johnston was born May 23 . 1819
Mary Johnston was born December 30th . 1820
Martha Johnston was born December 18th . 1822
Franklin Johnston was born November 13th . 1824
Hepsy Johnston was born August 26th " 1826 (very faded)
Caroline Johnston was born November 25th . 1828 (very faded)

Noah Renfro Varner died 1915
Myrtle Renfro Varner died March 5 192?
N.P. Renfro 2-24-1927
Elna R. Ingram July 4 1936
Forney Renfro Jan 25, 1940
Charles Ingram 1947
Ruth Renfro Reed 10/16/51
Alberta M--- Renfro 1/20/53
Clarence McCall Renfro 5-4-57

WOODWARD-McLENDON-GOWER BIBLE

Correction of information published in July 1961 issue of "Ansearchin" News titled "Woodward and Gower Family Bible Records" Copied by Mrs. Thomas McAdams 1971
Corrections made by Mrs. W.H. Lee, g.g. dau of Berry Franklin Gower, who owns the Bible. Mrs. Lee says the records were sent to Miss Irene Gower, our contributor, by myself, in the correct form. We sincerely wish to correct the errors made in our earlier record.

Family Record

Marriages:
Fielder Woodward was married to Catherine Joseph July 1, 1804
John Woodward was married to Jane Williams November 23, 1826
Moses Woodward was married to Eliza W. Lock August 20, 1829
Nicholas Gower was married to Matilda Woodward September 17, 1829
Sarah Eveline McClendon daughter of Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza his wife was married to Berry F. Gower Dec 11, 1856 on Spring Creek in Lawrence County, Tenn.

Marriages:
Thomas Woodward was married to Marget Kilpatrick July 26, 1828
Nathan McClendon Bot this book as the property of Fielder Woodward on the 21st day of Jany. 1833
Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza Franks daughter of John and Sarah Franks were married on the 6th day of December 1832
Nathan McClendon born July 7, 1796 Anson Coty, N.C.
Caroline Eliza Franks daughter of John & Sarah Franks born June 21, 1818 in Blount Coty, Ten.
Minerva J. McClendon daughter of Nathan & C.E. his wife married to F.M. Frank Feb. 15, 1852 in Lawrence County, Tenn.

Births:
Fielder Woodward was born Sept. 15, 1779
Catharine Joseph was born June 26, 1784
Thomas Woodward was born April 7, 1805
John Woodward was born March 5, 1807
Moses Woodward was born July 19, 1808
Bennet Woodward was born Feb. 21, 1810
Matilda Woodward was born Oct. 23, 1811
Pollyann Woodward of John Woodward was born Sept. 18, 1827

Nicholas Gower was born Oct. 29, 1807

Berry F. Gower was born Nov.11, 1830
William Fielder Gower was born May 28, 1832
Mary Minerva Jane daughter of Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza his wife was born on tuesday evening 17th September 1833
Sarah Eveline 2nd daughter of Nathan McClendon and Caroline Eliza his wife was born on monday morning 2nd day of May 1836
Franklin McClendon son of Nathan McClendon & E.C. his wife was born Thursday night 25th October 1838 in Lawrence County, Ten.

HAMBLIN FAMILY RECORD

This information given to Mrs. Margaret Holman from her grandfather, James Marion Hamblin born Sept. 1886 in Crawford County, Ark.
Submitted by Mrs. Margaret Holman, Holdenville, OK.

James Alexander Hamblin was Bord June the 26th A.D. 1856 his Fathers naname was Hisekiah and died in White Co. Tenn.
his mothers name was Abigail Shepard and died AD 1884 in Lincoln Co, Tenn.
Matilda Ann Keller was Bornd Apr. 8"- 1866 in Meggs Co. Tenn. her Fathers name was John Keller passed away Jan. AD 1885 her Mothers name was Mary Mahala Cranford.
J.A. & M.A. Hamblin were married Oct. 2" A.D. 1884 by Duke Brown a Justice of the Peace.

BRADFORD BIBLE RECORD

Publisher: The World Publishing Co. (no date)
Present owner: Mr. & Mrs. William Bradford, Fayetteville, Tenn.
Copied by Mabel Abbott Tucker, Bill Bradford and Lucille Bradford

Family Record

Parents Names:
Husband: Willie Bradford (William Eugene Bradford) born July 25, 1899 son of Jack Bradford (b 1861 died June 13, 1914) and Lula Mae Shaw
Wife: Nannie Lucille Beech Born June 14, 1906 daughter of Ben (Benjamin Stone Beech) and Sallie Ann Hairston.

Births:
(1) Ruby Kathleen Bradford Feb 28, 1924
(2) Willie J. Bradford June 17, 1926
(3) Thurman Stone Bradford 1928 Oct 2 (died age 3 with diphtheria)
(4) Lynn Douglas Bradford June 3 1931
(5) Raby Holbert Bradford 1933 - Sept 24
(6) Patsy Ann Bradford 1936 Aug 7

Shirley Jean Mitchell born Dec 4, 1941} children of Ruby Bradford
Willie Ray Mitchell born Nov 25, 1944 } & Jack Mitchell

Please print or type all information

Use numbers ending in 1 for male ancestors.
Use numbers ending in 0 for female ancestors.

SEE:
VOL. IR 1 — 28
THE LOVELLS
COME TO TENN.

ALEXANDER JOHN LOVELL
Birth Date SEPT. 28, 1868
Place POND CREEK, CHEATHAM CO. TENN
Marriage Date JAN. 15, 1905
Place
Death Date 1934
Place SAMS CREEK, CHEATHAM CO.
Reference PETWAY CEMETERY " "

OLLIE MAI PACK
Spouse
Birth Date MAR. 6, 1883
Place CHEATHAM Co.
Death Date JULY 12, 1967
Place NASHVILLE, TENN
Reference PETWAY CEMETARY
DEATH CERT.

Additional references (refer to names by number):

Chart number

1 ANDERSON BOOKER LOVELL
Birth Date NOV. 11, 1842
Place
Marriage Date JULY 25, 1861
Place
Death Date
Place POND CREEK
Reference CHEATHAM CO. TN.

0 LOUISA M. CROUCH
Birth Date AUG. 6, 1841
Place
Death Date JAN. 20, 1907
Place POND CREEK TN.
Reference BIBLE

11 BENJAMAN PACK LOVELL
Birth Date AUG. 5, 1811
Place
Marriage Date FEB. 21, 1833
Place
Death Date MAY 31, 1859
Place
Reference

10 DOROTHY HILL HOOPER
Birth Date APR. 13, 1819
Place
Death Date OCT. 15, 1878
Place
Reference

01 THOMAS CROUCH
Birth Date
Place
Marriage Date
Place
Death Date CA- 1876-77
Place
Reference

00 HARRIET W. SHELTON
Birth Date MAY 20, 1824
Place
Death Date
Place
Reference

111 JOHN MONROE LOVELL
Birth SEPT 17, 1779 N.C.
Marriage JULY 28, 1808
Death APR. 21, 1855
CHEATHAM CO. TN.

110 SUSANNAH PACK
Birth OCT. 7, 1786
Death SEPT. 8, 1857

101
Birth
Marriage
Death

100
Birth
Death

011
Birth
Marriage
Death

010
Birth
Death

001 WILLIAM M. SHELTON
Birth DEC. 23, 1797
Marriage JULY 20, 1819
Death SOL. " 29, 1819

000 JANE W. GOWER
Birth JULY 19, 1800
Death MAR. 31, 1849

" D.C. MARRIAGE BONDS BK-J

See other side

Nancy Lockhart Lovell Line
Katherine Susannah Hows Branch

31

JAMES A GOWER
b. Nov. 5, 1837
d. Jan 13, 1908 Buried Gower Cemetery, Buffalo Creek, Pegram, Tennessee
m. Mar. 20, 1862

KATHERINE SUSANNAH HOWS
b. Nov. 13, 1839
d. Aug. 24, 1924 Buried Gower Cemetery
Dau. Nancy Lockhart Lovell & Rasa Hows, Sr.

Margaret Gower
b.
d. Buried Franklin,
m. Thomas Still
No children

Nancy Gower
b.
d.
m. Will Cox No children

Ida Gower
b.
d. ca 1941
Did not marry

John Dow Gower
b. July 21, 1870
d. Oct. 23, 1897
Buried Gower Cemetery
Did not marry

James A. Gower, Jr.
b. Feb. 19, 1873
d. June 27, 1878
Buried Gower Cemetery

Ada Tennessee Gower
b. June 8, 1880
d. June 21, 1960 m. June 9, 1909 Ozro Brittain Williams b. Jan. 5, 1879
d. Oct. 22, 1943 - Woodlawn

Julia Gower
b.
d.
m. Robert Mingle No children. Buried Woodlawn Cem.

Joseph A. Gower
b. July 28, 1878
d. Dec. 1940
m. Lula Cotton b. Dec. 4, 1882 (Sept. 30, 1876 ?)
d. July 7, 1907 b. Gower

Mary Elizabeth Williams
b. Mar. 27, 1911
m. Oct. 22, 1949
Carl Hunter Green b. July 14, 1900 No children

Ozro Buford Williams
b. Feb. 12, 1913
d. Sept. 7, 1952

Dorothy Louise Williams
b. Mar. 16, 1914
m. Nov. 14, 1945
William J. (Buddy) O'Donnell
b. d. May 27, 1962

James D. Williams
b. Jan. 23, 1917
m. Mar. 4, 1939
Mary Frances McAdams b. Dec. 19, 1918

Katheryn Gower
b. Nov. 10, 1904
d. Feb. 3, 1974
m. 1936 Herman Bolton
b. June 5, 1908 Low Moor, Va.
Son of John William Bolton,
b. July 28, 1878 d. ____
& Mary Roland Burks b. Dec. 30, 1882 d. Dec. 4, 1918 Low Moor, Va.

Data on this sheet came mostly from Mary Elizabeth Green, Herman Bolton, Elsie Hows and cemetery records.

William Terrance O'Donnell
b. July 15, 1947
m. Nov. 2, 1974
Julia Reynolds Tarver

Julia Elizabeth O Donnell
b. Mar. 31, 1953

James Gower Williams
b. Sept. 17, 1942
m. Dec.15, 1972
Betsy Leila Dunn b.

John Daniel Williams
b. Oct. 7, 1950
m. Aug. 1973
Ann Marie Chilando b. Nov. 30, 1955

Frances Arlene Williams
b. Aug. 22, 1954
Not married-She is a Reg. Dental Hygienist

Robert Bolton
b. Apr. 6, 1938 m. June 16, 1939 Anna Loy Shipp.
Children: Anna, Kathryn and Gower Bolton

Eleanor Bolton
b. May 29, 1941 m. July 12 1958 Joe Edward Mills
Child: Joseph Mills b.____

Margie Louise Bolton
b. Feb. 3, 1943 m. Steven Lawrence Child: Amy Elizabeth

Gowen, G.H. GA 4th (Clinch's) Cav. Co.D 1st Sgt.
Gowen, G.H. MS Cav. Powers' Regt. Co.A
Gowen, G.W. AR 27th Inf. Co.K
Gowen, Harrison H. TN 26th Inf. Co.I
Gowen, H.B. TN 13th Inf. Co.H
Gowen, H.C. TN Inf. 4th Cons.Regt. Co.I
Gowen, Henry C. TN 30th Inf. Co.F Cpl.
Gowen, Hugh AL Inf. 1st Regt. Co.H,K
Gowen, I. MS 18th Cav. Co.I
Gowen, Isaac MS 5th Cav. Co.E
Gowen, Isaac M. TN 18th Inf. Asst.Surg.
Gowen, Jackson VA 21st Cav. Co.B,C
Gowen, James AR 24th Inf. Co.A
Gowen, James TN Lt.Arty. McClung's Co.
Gowen, J.C. KY 3rd Mtd.Inf. Co.A
Gowen, J.F. GA 5th Cav. Co.A
Gowen, J.M. Gen. & Staff Asst.Surg.
Gowen, John AR 10th (Witt's) Cav. Co.G
Gowen, John VA Hvy.Arty. 20th Bn. Co.C
Gowen, John E. AL Rebels
Gowen, Joshua MS 18th Inf. Co.F
Gowen, Levi B. AR 7th Cav. Co.A
Gowen, Nelson NC Inf. 2nd Bn. Co.F
Gowen, Pleasant L. NC 54th Inf. Co.K
Gowen, S.C. TX 21st Inf. Co.H
Gowen, S.E. TN 21st (Carter's) Cav. Co.G 1st Sgt.
Gowen, Thomas B. GA Cav. 2nd Bn. Co.D Regt.QM
Gowen, Washington TN 24th Inf. Co.B
Gowen, W.F. TN 13th Inf. Co.H Music.
Gowen, W.H. GA 4th (Clinch's) Cav. Co.K,F
Gowen, William NC 60th Inf. Co.B
Gowen, William SC 9th Inf. Co.H
Gowen, W.R. AR Cav. Coleman's Regt. Floyd's Co. 3rd Lt.
Gowen, W.W. GA Cav. Floyd's Co.
Gowens, — TX Cav. Mann's Regt. Co.K
Gowens, B. GA 54th Inf. Co.G
Gowens, D. GA 2nd Bn.Troops & Defences (Macon) Co.C
Gowens, George W. AR 17th (Lemoyne's) Inf. Co.C
Gowens, George W. AR 21st Inf. Co.C
Gowens, George W. MO 1st Cav. Co.A
Gowens, G.W. AR 32nd Inf. Co.B
Gowens, Henry SC 5th Res. Co.C
Gowens, Henry SC Inf. 7th Bn. (Enfield Rifles) Co.C
Gowens, J. TN 28th Cav. Co.C
Gowens, James J. AR 17th (Lemoyne's) Inf. Co.C
Gowens, James J. AR 21st Inf. Co.C
Gowens, J.D.S. AL 31st Inf. Co.B
Gowens, J.M. AR 37th Inf. Co.A
Gowens, Levi B. AR 17th (Lemoyne's) Inf. Co.C
Gowens, Levi B. AR 21st Inf. Co.C
Gowens, M. AL 34th Inf. Co.H
Gowens, Martin NC 50th Inf. Co.G
Gowens, N. TN 12th Cav. Co.C
Gowens, Wesly SC Inf. 7th Bn. (Enfield Rifles) Co.C
Gowens, W.G. AR Inf. Adams' Regt. Co.I
Gower, — MO 12th Cav. Co.B
Gower, Abel AR 8th Inf. New Co.G
Gower, Abel AR 27th Inf. Co.F
Gower, Able AR 14th (McCarver's) Inf. Co.A
Gower, Anderson NC 53rd Inf. Co.C 1st Sgt.
Gower, A.W.D. GA 24th Inf. Co.F
Gower, B.A. TN 48th (Nixon's) Inf. Co.K
Gower, B.F. TN 19th (Biffle's) Cav. Co.D
Gower, D.S. GA 16th Inf. Co.I
Gower, D.T. GA 19th Inf. Co.F
Gower, D.T. GA 28th Inf. Co.C
Gower, Elihu M. TN 48th (Nixon's) Inf. Co.K
Gower, Elihu M. TN 54th Inf. Co.G
Gower, E.N. GA 4th Cav. (St.Guards) Dorsey's Co.
Gower, E.P. TN 12th (Cons.) Inf. Co.D
Gower, E.P. TN 22nd Inf. Co.K
Gower, G.H. TN 50th Inf. Co.G
Gower, G.P. NC 1st Inf. Co.G
Gower, Green L. TN 54th Inf. Co.G
Gower, G.W. TN 51st (Cons.) Inf. Co.E
Gower, H.S. NC 2nd Arty. (36th St.Troops) Co.D
Gower, I.C. SC Inf. Hampton Legion Co.D
Gower, Jackson AR 27th Inf. Co.F
Gower, James NC 31st Inf. Co.C
Gower, James B. MS 21st Inf. Co.E
Gower, James C. GA 11th Inf. Co.A 1st Lt.
Gower, James R. NC 47th Inf. Co.E
Gower, J.H. GA 11th Cav. Co.B
Gower, J.M. GA 10th Cav. (St.Guards) Co.C
Gower, J.M. GA 13th Cav. Co.H
Gower, J.M. TN 38th Inf. Co.F
Gower, J.M. TN 48th (Nixon's) Inf. Co.K
Gower, John A. MS 1st Lt.Arty. Co.H
Gower, John M. GA 24th Inf. Co.F
Gower, John W. MS 18th Inf. Co.D 1st Lt.
Gower, Josephus MS 18th Inf. Co.D
Gower, L.D. TN Inf. Nashville Bn. Cattles' Co.
Gower, Mathew AR 38th Inf. Co.A
Gower, Paschal NC 26th Inf. Co.D Music.
Gower, Perrin NC 26th Inf. Co.D
Gower, Perrin H. NC Mil. 1st Regt. W.D. Crowder's Co.
Gower, P.H.B. GA 8th Inf. (St.Guards) Co.C
Gower, R.P. TN 38th Inf. Co.F
Gower, Simeon H. NC 24th Inf. Co.I
Gower, T.C. GA 11th Cav. Co.B
Gower, Tewatt VA 62nd Mtd.Inf. 2nd Co.E
Gower, Thomas C. GA 4th Cav. (St.Guards) Gower's Co. Capt.
Gower, Thomas C. GA Cobb's Legion Co.C Cpl.
Gower, Thomas C. SC Cav.Bn. Hampton Legion Co.B QMSgt.
Gower, W.F. TN 48th (Nixon's) Inf. Co.K
Gower, W.H. AR 38th Inf. Co.D
Gower, William AR 16th Inf. Co.K
Gower, William AR 27th Inf. Co.F
Gower, William NC 26th Inf. Co.D
Gower, William E. GA 24th Inf. Co.F
Gower, William F. TN 54th Inf. Co.G
Gower, William H. AR 1st Vol. Co.G
Gower, William L. MO 2nd Cav. Co.B,D
Gower, William R. NC 3rd Cav. (41st St.Troops) Co.I
Gower, W.J. TN 40th Inf. Co.E
Gower, W.M. AL 31st Inf. Co.G,C
Gowerneur, Lewis TX Cav. Saufley's Scouting Bn. Co.B
Gowers, A. TN 22nd (Nixon's) Cav. Co.D Sgt.
Gowers, Daniel AR 7th Mil. Co.D
Gowers, Daniel AR 15th (N.W.) Inf. Co.K
Gowers, James MO Cav. Ford's Bn. Co.E
Gowers, James Gen. & Staff Capt.,AQM
Gowers, John FL 2nd Inf. Co.B
Gowers, L.B. AR 15th (N.W.) Inf. Co.K
Gowers, W. MO Cav. Coffee's Regt. Co.C
Gowers, William AL 5th Inf. Co.B
Gowett, J.V. AL 31st Inf. Co.H
Gowhagan, Samuel KY 14th Cav. Co.C
Gowie, John Myrick FL Inf. 2nd Bn. Co.E 1st Sgt.
Gowin, Albert G. MS 16th Inf. Co.H
Gowin, Allen NC 4th Bn.Jr.Res. Co.C
Gowin, Daniel H. NC Inf. 2nd Bn. Co.H
Gowin, E.P. AL 16th Inf. Co.C
Gowin, Garrett H. MS 16th Inf. Co.H
Gowin, Harrison H. TN 43rd Inf. Co.F
Gowin, Isaac N. AL 26th (O'Neal's) Inf. Co.E
Gowin, J.A. MS Inf. 1st Bn.St.Troops (30 days '64) Co.H
Gowin, J.A. MS 16th Inf. Co.H
Gowin, Jacob MO 1st N.E. Cav. Co.A Cpl.
Gowin, J.C. MS Cav. 1st Bn. (McNair's) St.Troops Co.A Sgt.
Gowin, J.C. MS Cav. Yerger's Regt. Co.B
Gowin, J.C. MS 39th Inf. Co.A
Gowin, Jesse MS Inf. 1st Bn.St.Troops (30 days '64) Co.H
Gowin, John J. VA 46th Inf. 2nd Co.B
Gowin, J.W. NC Walker's Bn. Thomas' Legion Co.H
Gowin, Richard MS Inf. 1st Bn.St.Troops (30 days '64) Co.H
Gowin, Samuel F. VA 46th Inf. 2nd Co.B
Gowin, Wayne MS 16th Inf. Co.H Sgt.
Gowin, William D. TN 43rd Inf. Co.F
Gowin, William T. MS 16th Inf. Co.H
Gowing, George W. MS 10th Inf. Old Co.H
Gowing, T. AL 17th Inf. Co.F
Gowing, W.H. VA 3rd Res. Co.H
Gowing, William H. SC 5th Inf. 1st Co.D, 2nd Co.D
Gowing, William H. SC Palmetto S.S. Co.A
Gowings, A.J. AR 8th Cav. Co.I
Gowings, David MS 4th Inf. Co.F Cpl.
Gowins, Ainsley SC Inf. 7th Bn. (Enfield Rifles) Co.C
Gowins, Finis KY Cav. Sypert's Regt. Co.D
Gowins, George W. MS 3rd Inf. Co.K Sgt.
Gowins, H.H. MS 4th Cav. Co.D
Gowins, J.A. AR 11th Inf. Co.C
Gowins, J.A. AR 11th & 17th Cons.Inf. Co.C
Gowins, Jacob MO 16th Inf. Co.F
Gowins, John TN 43rd Inf. Co.F
Gowins, John W. NC 47th Inf. Co.K
Gowins, Manly C. NC 52nd Inf. Co.B
Gowins, Ransom SC Inf. 7th Bn. (Enfield Rifles) Co.C
Gowins, R.H. TX 19th Inf. Co.H
Gowins, Thomas J. TN 15th Inf. Co.G
Gowins, Thompson NC 5th Sr.Res. Co.B
Gowins, W. FL 5th Inf. Co.B
Gowins, W.D. TN 62nd Mtd.Inf. Co.G
Gowins, Wesly TN 62nd Mtd.Inf. Co.E
Gowins, William SC 6th Inf. 2nd Co.D

Duplicate

GOWER SPRINGS named for early family

In the vicinity of Green Street Circle, Gainesville, near the intersection of Thompson Bridge Road, the "Biscuit Barn," or "Triangle Shopping Center and the "Cake Box" are a few ruins of Gower Springs and the Gower Springs Hotel. The site of the hotel, as pointed out by an old timer, was located on the hillside in the curve of Green Street Circle. Residents now living in the vicinity may be partaking of peaches from trees which were part of an orchard planted by E. N. Gower for whom the springs and hotel were named.

An advertisement published in 1880 describes the landmark hotel:

"Valuable Property for Sale:

The Celebrated Gower Springs located just outside the city limits of Gainesville. The best chalybeate water in Georgia. Hundreds who have drunk of water can bear testimony as to its medical virtue. The hotel has 30 rooms; the house is all plastered and in good condition; built three years ago; fine mountain view; on the place is a carriage and black-smith shop, stables servant houses, etc. One hundred acres of land, about 10 in cultivation; a fine young peach orchard. The Gainesville street railroad runs to the Spring from the Air Line railroad. This is a chance for a good investment as this is one of the finest summer resorts in the country.

"If not sold the hotel is for rent to an early applicant. Terms made known on applicant to A.B.C. Dorsey and Co., Real Estate Agent, Gainesville, Ga."

Hotel Owner

The owner of the Gower Springs Hotel was Ebenezer Norton Gower, who was born in Sommerset County, Me. It is not known when he became a citizen of Hall County, but deed records date some land transactions in the 1850's. The hotel was erected in 1877, according to the advertisement.

Some further data about the resort founder is from his obituary dated: May 13, 1897. The statement is made that Gower did much to help shape the destiny of Gainesville.

"After Life's Battle Comes Rest. When death came to E.N. Gower Sr. last Thursday afternoon, one of the landmarks of the city was removed from our midst. Mr. Gower did more to shape the destiny of our city and contribute to its growth, possibly, than any other of his pioneer associates. Long before the war, (War Between the States) when Gainesville was only a little village, he engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, which found a ready market all over the state, and caused the place to become celebrated as a manufacturing point from its infancy. His success was stamped on the minds of others, and his actions suggested the rule of action which subsequently governed others; hence today a manufacturing city second to none in the South.

Analyzed Waters

"Later on he found that half our natural riches were still unknown to the outside world, and he therefore had some of our mineral waters analyzed and built the Gower Springs hotel and advertised it as a summer resort, 'where the purest and most exhilerating and mineral water most conducive to health, could be found.' The results of his efforts in this direction cannot be told. The hundreds upon hundreds of pale-faced, emanciated invalids who have come here and returned to their homes with rosy cheeks are the success which crowned his efforts.

"Mr. Gower was in his 83rd year when he was taken from the city he had helped to found and had watched with silent pride as it made its splendid strides in the channels he had paved in its early history. He leaves an aged wife, two sons and three daughters. One of his sons, T.C. Gower, is the well-known physician; the other, E.N. Gower Jr., followed the vocation